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U.S. USING CHARGES OF SOVIET VIOLATIONS AS 'COVER'

LD241941 Moscow TASS in English 1909 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 24 TASS -- Follows commentary by Vladimir Chernyshev, a TASS military news analyst:

The U.S. Administration has staged a fresh farce, pretending that it wishes to "seek council" from its allies and maybe even to "heed" their opinion. Perhaps, there is "awareness" in Washington that after the aggression against soverign Libya launched in open disregard of the views and interests of the same allies, the aggression, which set off a storm of indignation and hurt the feelings of people among their camp, the time has now come to do something in the manner befitting an "ally".

The scenario deals this time with the Salt-2 treaty. The title roles are performed by Paul Nitze, ambassador at large in the field of arms control, who appears in the West European scene, and Edward Rowney, special adviser to the President and secretary of state, who was sent on a mission to the countries of the Far East. They are quite worthy actors. Yet, at times, they "let the cat out of the bang". Thus, for example, Nitze said in a "DER SPIEGEL" interview that of great importance was not arms control, but the nuclear threat. In translation into the language of the policy of "neoglobalism", this means that the main thing is to have an opportunity to threaten other states and peoples with nuclear weapons, using them as a "big stick".

Yet Paul Nitze was not reprimanded in Washington for that, since the President himself made prior to that an even more tell-tale statement to the effect that it can be argued, should an argument arise in general, only what weapons the USA needed and what weapons it did not need, but by no means whether the USA should renounce weapons for the sake of treaties and agreements.

This is the "clue" for the farce to be staged in the capitals of allies by the Washington emissaries. For a start they were told to sweeten the pill, by saying that President Reagan had decided "on a preliminary basis" not to violate a single provision of the SALT-2 treaty in May this year, when the eighth nuclear-powered missile carrying submarine "Nevada" of the "Trident" system will start on running trials. The United States is disassembling two old sulbmarines of the Poseidon type not to excel the limit set by the treaty for the launchers of MIRVed missiles.

Yet the main point is not that "spoonful of honey". In the first place, the emissaries are to warn the allies that the current decision, as was also the case in June 1985, is a single act. As the newspaper "NEW YORK TIMES" said, this autumn the USA will again examine the question whether it is expedient to observe the limitations imposed by the SALT-2 treaty, since in November-December the outfitting of bombers carrying cruise missiles will take the USA above the limit set by the treaty for MIRV'ed missiles and bombers carrying cruise missiles.

The allies of Washington should have no illusions as to the fact that as soon as some or other provision of the treaty becomes an obstacle to the programmes drawn up in the USA, for the creation and buildup of strategic weapons, it will be "amputated".

This "approach" to the contractual-legal basis of the limitation and reduction of arms has been explicitly spelled out by Caspar Weinberger, U.S. secretary of defence, who said that America's interests are nowhere carved in stone and that judgement of the vital interests will sometimes depend on the circumstances of a specific instance. The need to win takes firmness and determination on the part of America, he said. So, Washington's allies should firmly "learn" that the USA is set for "victory" and does not intend to limit in any way the freedom of the choice of methods to achieve that aim.

They would be well advised to realise another thing too: No matter what the advice may be, no matter what the allies may insist on, the U.S. Administration will act as it chooses. Could they have forgotten the principles of the current U.S. Administration? The same Pentagon chief has openly spelled out another "postulate" of Washington, by saying that the USA can no longer deceive itself by the idea that its commitments to the allies are based on the altruistic wish to protect their freedom. In real fact, the protection of their freedom is simply the protection of America's own freedom on forward lines. He could not be more frank. This is a formula according to which they are going to do whatever they wish, to act as they choose. That is precisely why the allies are informed now that the limits envisaged by the SALT-2 treaty may be exceeded in the future, should weighty military reasons for that appear. Indeed, there are no "altruists" among the current U.S. Administration.

And, at last, the Washington emissaries are "bringing to the attention" of the allies that the USSR has allegedly more than once violated the provisions of the treaty. Why should they have repeated these lies now? The answer to that question is contained in another element of Washington's "instructions: The USA intends to take appropriate measures. The U.S. leadership, which ordered the Pentagon last June to broaden the programme for a modernisation of the U.S. strategic force, is again trying to use a false pretext for further building up the arms race. Trying to camouflage its own violations of the provisions of the treaty, the U.S. Administration is picturing them as measures allegedly taken "in response" to some mythical violations by the USSR.

The U.S. leadership has to stage all kinds of shows as a cover for its actions aimed at creeping out of treaties and agreements. This protective cover is designed as a blind not only for the allies, but also for the United States public which realises the danger of this policy. The SALT-2 treaty is far from being ideal, but if the restrictions imposed by it are broken, the arms race will further spiral, absorbing with no useful purpose new billions of dollars and increasing the danger hanging over mankind, the newspaper PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER said editorially.

FIRST STAGE OF 1986 DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE ENDS

LD241748 Moscow TASS in English 1642 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] Geneva, April 24 TASS -- The first stage of this year's session of the Geneva disarmament conference ended here today. The Soviet Union's major initiatives, from the programme of the total liquidation of nuclear and other weapons of mass annihilation by the year 2000, outlined in Mikhail Gorbachev's January 15 statement this year, to the new proposals on banning chemical weapons, that were just submitted to the conference and open the road to drafting a relevant international convention, were in the center of attention.

This constructive course was received with support by the delegations of other socialist countries and non-aligned states. But even this time the conference failed to achieve substantial progress in solving disarmament questions through the fault of the United States and other NATO countries.

The session will resume its work on June 10.

U.S. 'To Blame' For Deadlock

LD241953 Moscow TASS in English 1840 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] Geneva April 24 TASS -- TASS correspondent Yevgeniy Korzhev reports: The first part of the session of this year's disarmament conference has wound up its work today.

A characteristic feature of many speeches, especially at the beginning of the session, was the hope expressed for a positive change and reaching practical progress in the resolution of questions pertaining to the limitation of arms and to disarmament in the light of the important accords reached at the Soviet-American summit meeting last November. The statement by Mikhail Gorbachev of January 15 containing a summary of the comprehensive disarmament program up to the year of 2000 has produced a tremendous impression here.

The USSR's decision to prolong the unilateral moratorium on conducting nuclear explosions, the idea to create a comprehensive international security system, which was put forward at the 27th congress, the recent Soviet initiative on a cut in conventional weapons, the new proposals tabled here on ensuring the immunity of artificial earth satellites and prohibiting satellite-killer systems and on banning chemical weapons have met with a positive response in the conference circles.

Summing up the results of the work done over the three months, Viktor Israelyan, who heads the Soviet delegation, expressed regret that the U.S. side had responded to all of these initiatives with nuclear explosions in Nevada, stepping up the anti-Soviet campaign, blocking the Soviet-American talks on nuclear and space weapons, unfolding the "star wars" program and at last the impudent bandit attack against Libya, which is fraught with a serious deterioration of the international situation.

The USA is also to blame for the deadlock at the conference, for lack of any substantial progress in the resolution of the issues under discussion at the conference.

The persistent demand for putting an end to marking time and for intensifying the discussion of top priority issues rang out in the statements by many other delegations, including those of some Western countries.

The conference has approved today the mandate of the committee on the question of preventing the arms race in outer space. Luvsandorijiyin Bayart, representative of the Mongolian People's Republic, has been elected chairman of the new auxiliary body of the conference.

Our conference will resolve in session on June 10.

STANDING CONSULTATIVE COMMISSION SESSION ENDS

LD240509 Moscow TASS in English 1619 GMT 23 Apr 86

[Text] Geneva April 23 TASS -- A regular session of the Soviet-U.S. Standing Consultative Commission ended here today. The commission had been set up to promote the implementation of aims and provisions of the Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems and the interim agreement on certain measures pertaining to strategic offensive arms limitation that were concluded between the USSR and the USA on May 26, 1972 and the agreement on the measures to lessen the danger of an outbreak of nuclear war concluded between the two countries on September 30, 1971.

WPC SESSION STATEMENT CONDEMNS U.S. AIR RAID

LD241537 Moscow TASS in English 1420 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] Sofia April 24 TASS -- The session of the World Peace Council condemns Libya's barbarous bombing of the U.S. aviation during which 170 peaceful people were killed or wounded. This is said in a statement adopted today by the session of the World Peace council under way here.

The session urges all peoples of the world to rally against the U.S. policy of state terrorism and armed intervention which undermines constructive efforts for the ensurance of international security.

The World Peace Council expresses solidarity with the people of the Libyan Jamahiriyah in its struggle against the United States aggressive actions, in the just struggle for independence, sovereignty and peace.

Bulgarian Leader Speaks

LD241835 Moscow TASS in English 1620 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] Sofia April 24 TASS -- "In our nuclear age the safeguarding and consolidation of peace is the main problem faced by all peoples", said general secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, president of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, Todor Zhivkov. He spoke today at the session of the World Peace Council that opened here.

"We are all threatened with nuclear catastrophe and our common task is to remove that threat", the Bulgarian leader said. "Certain circles of imperialism and international reaction have no wish to face realities of the world of today. They continue whipping up the arms race, stockpiling weapons of mass destruction. They are prepared to go to any lengths to impose their will on the peoples and to achieve world supremacy. Barbarous bombings of peaceful Libyan cities, subversive actions against Nicaragua, the increase of the aid to bandits from UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] in Angola, the backing of South African racists and other such actions show the reactionary essence of this policy."

"The Soviet initiative of January 15 of this year aimed at ridding the world of weapons of mass destruction received broad support in the world," Todor Zhivkov said. "The 27th CPSU Congress has developed and enriched it with the concept of creating an all-embracing system of international security. This is also the aim of the latest Soviet proposal for considerable reduction of conventional armaments and armed forces of European states and also of the corresponding forces of the USA and Canada stationed in Europe".

"The common concern presupposes and requires the common responsibility and joint efforts for safeguarding and consolidating peace. Socialist Bulgaria will continue vigorously conducting the peaceful policy. Safeguarding of universal peace is our supreme goal, the manifestation of humanism and high moral standards of our ideology and our system", the Bulgarian leader said.

Zhukov Addresses

LD241952 Moscow TASS in English 1802 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] Sofia April 24 TASS -- "It is now clear to all that the stepping up of the struggle for the prevention of nuclear war whose risk is increasing, is now needed as never before", said the head of the Soviet delegation Yuriy Zhukov, speaking here at the session of the World Peace Council (WPC) that opened today. "The Soviet peace movement, the Soviet Peace Committee received with satisfaction the news that the WPC leadership has decided to devote this session to a thorough and businesslike discussion of the state of and prospects for the movement's activity in conditions of a new, extremely difficult international situation", he said. "The message from Mikhail Gorbachev, read out here, the speech by Todor Zhivkov and a thorough report by Romesh Chandra, suggest to us the ideas which will help us solve the burning problems facing the WPC".

The speaker pointed to special danger for peace posed by nuclear explosions in Nevada, brazen acts of armed aggression of the U.S. Navy and Air Force against sovereign Libya, by the openly publicized preparation for the invasion of Nicaragua by U.S. forces, the further intensification of the undeclared wars with the use of hired gangs armed with up-to-date U.S. military equipment, against Angola and Afghanistan, the stepping up of Israel's bloody terror in Lebanon, Israel's atrocities on occupied lands of the Arab people of Palestine.

"All this requires the stepping up of mass actions of peace champions, the rallying of all anti-war forces, the enhancement of the effectivity of their joint or parallel actions", Yuriy Zhukov went on.

"As to the Soviet peace movement, we shall start in a few days the action of many millions in the framework of the week of the struggle for universal security to be held in May", the speaker said. "Their priority slogans will be the struggle for an end to nuclear testing, for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons by the year 2000, for the destruction of all U.S. and Soviet medium-range missiles in Europe and for turning Europe into a nuclear-free zone, for the prevention of the militarisation of space and also mass actions in support of the peoples that became victims to undeclared wars and outright aggression on the part of the USA".

The Soviet delegation supported the considerations expressed by the speaker and advanced a number of concrete proposals whose aim is to upgrade the activity of the World Peace Council so that it should be in keeping with the present international situation.

UN DELEGATE DUBININ NOTES CRITICISM OF U.S. AIR RAID

LD242327 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Report by New York correspondent Vadim Lobachenko and interview with Yu.V. Dubinin, USSR permanent representative to the United Nations; date and place not given -- from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] The 41st anniversary of the San Francisco conference on the United Nations is in April. At that conference the UN Charter was drawn up. However, the United States, which was a signatory to the Charter, has again and not for the first time embarked on gross violations of all the main provisions of the Charter, including the clause on renunciation of the threat of force and its use in world affairs.

At a meeting of the Security Council at UN headquarters in New York, the U.S. pirate action against Libya was appraised as a direct challenge to the absolute majority of UN member-countries.

[Begin recording][Dubinin] More than 40 states had their say, and all the representatives of these states, apart from the representatives of the United States, naturally, and Britain, the U.S. accomplice, emphatically condemned the bandit raids by U.S aircraft on Libyan towns.

In this respect, it was emphasized that U.S. aggression against Libya harbors a threat to international peace not only in the Mediterranean area but also throughout the entire world.

Carrying out the instructions of the Soviet leadership, the USSR delegation at the Security Council resolutely demanded that U.S. aggression against Libya be halted and that the UN Security Council adopt all necessary measures against a repetition of this kind of action by the United States. A group of nonaligned states submitted a draft resolution for the Security Council's consideration condemning the United States and demanding that it cease using the threat of force or force itself. In the vote, the nonaligned states' draft resolution gathered a majority -- namely, nine votes. Unfortunately it was not adopted, since the United States and its Western allies vetoed this draft resolution. They thereby demonstrated their disregard for the UN Charter and for the will of the world's peoples. [end recording]

NONALIGNED DELEGATION SEEKS UN MEETING ON LIBYA

LD241120 Moscow TASS in English 0916 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] New York April 24 TASS -- TASS correspondent Sergey Baybakov report:

Foreign Miniters of India, Cuba, Senegal, Yugoslavia and permanent representatives of Ghana and Congo to the United Nations visited the president of the United Nations Security Council and asked him on behalf of the nonaligned countries to call a session of the Council in order to discuss the consequences of the U.S. bombing raid on Libya.

They also met with the United Natons secretary general and discussed with him the situation in the central Mediterranean. The ministers handed over the Javier Perez de Cuellar the text of the communique passed by the extraordinary meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of the nonaligned countries in New Delhi April 15.

The document strongly condemned the bombing of Libyan cities and expressed serious concern of the nonaligned countries over U.S. actions in the Mediterranean Sea -- the actions fraught with a threat to peace.

It is our firm conviction that peace in the Mediterranean region cannot be based on the policy of intervention, interference and intimidation, Bal Ram Bhagat, minister of external affairs of India, told newsmen after the meeting. The U.S. action all the more deserves to be condemned, because the United States as a permanent member of the Security Council bears responsibility for maintaining international peace and stability and for observing the United Nations Charter.

It was officially announced here that the United Nations Security Council would meet in the second half of the day Thursday and continue the discussion of the situation that had taken shape in the central Mediterranean in the wake of the U.S. armed aggression against Libya. Last Friday the United States, Great Britain and France resorted to a triple veto in the Security Council to prevent it from passing a resolution denouncing the bandit action of the United States.

It is expected that Thursday's session of the U.N. Security Council will hear speeches of foreign ministers of four countries who visited Tripoli on the instructions of the Coordinating Bureau of the Nonaligned Movement.

While in the Libyan capital they saw the effects of the barbaric raid which had taken lives of the civilian population.

Delegation Head Remarks

LD250736 Moscow TASS in English 0716 GMT 25 Apr 86

[Text] New York April 25 TASS -- By TASS correspondent Vyacheslav Chernyshev:

The non-aligned countries strongly condemn the U.S. aggression against Libya's independence and territorial integrity, Bali Ram Bhagat, head of the special non-aligned delegation and minister for external relations of India, has told a meeting of the U.N. Security Council.

Nothing could justify the massive use of force against a sovereign state in violation of the aims and principles of the U.N. Charter, he said. The Non-Aligned Movement was alarmed by the developments in the Mediterranean that were fraught with a serious threat to peace and security not only in that region, but also all over the world.

'A. al-Turayki, Libya's permanent representative to the U.N. expressed gratitude to the international community on behalf of the Libyan people for its support and solidarity with Libya that was subjected to a treacherous attack.

He drew U.N. attention to the fresh U.S. threats and preparation of more provocations and aggression against Arab countries by the American-Israeli partners.

Western countries, first of all the United States and Britain, were unable to give up the claims to special rights to political and intellectual hegemony and the imposition of their criteria to judge the behavior of others, the meeting was told by Clovis Maksud, permanent observer of the League of Arab States at the U.N.

The Security Council meeting has shown again that the international community unconditionally condemns the banking on rude military force and interference in the affairs of sovereign countries, rather than one reason and responsibility. It backs the peoples' legitimate right to freedom, independence and human dignity, and to defence from aggression.

SFRY Foreign Secretary Cited

LD250632 Moscow TASS in English 0457 GMT 25 Apr 86

[Text] New York April 25 TASS -- The non-aligned countries persistently demand that the Security Council fulfil its obligations and adopt measures to prevent the repetition of aggression similar to the U.S. attack on Libya, an action that deserves the sternest condemnation, Raif Dizdarevic, Yugoslavia's federal secretary for foreign affairs, has pointed out in his address to the U.N. Security Council.

If one reconciled with the aggression against Libya, he said, more acts of aggression, more victims would inevitably follow.

A special non-aligned mission visited Libya and saw there mutilated men, women and children, residential areas turned into ruins, suffering of innocent people. Precisely they were targets of the bombing, Dizdarevic pointed out.

U.S. Delegate Warns Nonaligned

LD250645 Moscow TASS in English 0631 GMT 25 Apr 86

[Text] New York April 25 TASS -- Walters, U.S. chief delegate to the U.N. was incensed by the wrathful condemnation of the U.S. aggression against Libya by members of a special delegation of non-aligned countries during a Security Council meeting. he attacked with rudeness, unprecedented for the U.N. both individual non-aligned states and the movement as a whole. Switching from the diplomatic to profane language, he openly threatened the Non-Aligned Movement that the USA "will not forget" statements by members of the special delegation at the Security Council.

U.S. USES FRG IN CARRYING OUT 'STATE TERRORISM'

LD231321 Moscow TASS in English 1428 GMT 23 Apr 86

[Text] Bonn April 23 TASS -- TASS correspondent Sergey Sosnovskiy reports:

The territory of West Germany was involved in the planning and implementation of the U.S. pirate act against sovereign Libya, the newspaper FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU wrote today. The U.S. General Bernard Rogers, commander-in-chief of the U.S. Army in Europe, not only planned but also guided the action against Libya staying in his headquarters in Stuttgart. According to the newspaper, he himself admitted it when talking with a group of West German journalists in the Belgian headquarters of NATO last week.

According to the newspaper, apprehension is growing that the "double function" of the U.S. general -- supreme commander-in-chief of the Allied Armed Forces of NATO in Europe and commander of the U.S. Army -- can result in serious foreign political difficulties in case of the repetition of such actions.

It follows from the article that it was not the first time that the U.S. used the territory of West Germany for carrying through its pirate actions in various parts of the world. Thus, B. Rogers controlled from West Germany operations of the U.S. military against Lebanon in 1984, because the whole of the Mediterranean region 'falls within the sphere of his competence'.

The newspaper UNSERE ZEIT recalls with concern that while U.S. warplanes were bombing peaceful cities in Libya, units of U.S. first-strike "Pershing-2 nuclear missiles deployed in West Germany were placed on high alert."

According to UNSERE ZEIT, it shows how widely the U.S. can use the territory of West Germany as a place d'armes for its policy of state terrorism. The newspaper pointed out that, perhaps, the time had come to seriously consider the problem of West Germany's sovereignty and to ask oneself whether the FRG Government had become merely an executor of the orders of the U.S. Administration.

U.S., UK REJECT NEW SOVIET PEACE INITIATIVES

OW242354 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1045 GMT 22 Apr 86

[From "The World Today" program presented by Igor Kudrin]

[Text] U.S. Secretary of Defense Weinberger recently held a press conference in Washington at which he was asked, above all else, to comment on the new Soviet peace initiatives. We must regard any Russian plans on changing the structure of forces in Europe with great caution, the Pentagon chief said. Do not forget that they have an overwhelming advantage and when they speak about reducing armed forces and weapons, they are, above all, pursuing the goal of pushing the United States out of Europe, and away from supporting NATO.

At a time when other politicians are calling for studying in detail and weighing the Soviet proposals and supporting the USSR's readiness for constructive dialogue, here all is being dismissed without even a second thought.

Apparently, in order to show that NATO is as unified as ever, members of NATO are holding military maneuvers one after another -- multilateral, bilateral, with or without U.S. participation. Yesterday, 10 countries began the "Elder Forest 86" maneuvers. The aim -- listen to this -- is to perfect defenses in case of an attack by Warsaw Pact countries. Nearly a hundred F-111 bombers, including those that took part in the recent attack on Libya, will take off from bases in the United Kingdom.

Today the NATO "Bold Game" maneuvers will begin. They will be held in the North Sea as well as near the coasts of Denmark and Norway. Ships and planes belonging to Denmark, the FRG, Norway, and the United Kingdom will take part. On 24 April the United States, the United Kingdom, Italy, and Turkey will begin maneuvers in the Mediterranean. All modern components of naval warfare will take part, including ships, planes, submarines, and helicopters.

The Conservative government intends to obediently follow the aggressive intentions of Washington, contrary to the opinion of the majority of Britons. This is the only way to interpret the words Thatcher, head of the Tory cabinet, made in an interview on British television. Discussing the possibility of further attacks by the United States on Libya, the prime minister declared that she has not the slightest doubt regarding allowing the use of U.S. bases for bombing forays on Libyan territory. According to London, Margaret Thatcher said U.K. involvement in this aggression was in no way a mistake. If needed, the government is prepared to again give permission for a similar raid by U.S. bombers based in Britain.

STOCKHOLM CONFERENCE NOTES GORBACHEV'S BERLIN SPEECH

LD212119 Moscow TASS in English 1450 GMT 21 Apr 86

[Gorbachev's Berlin Speech in Focus of Attention" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Stockholm April 21 TASS -- The speech made by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, in Berlin at the 11th Congress of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, has evoked broad response at the Stockholm Conference on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe.

The Soviet delegation drew attention of the participants in the Stockholm conference to the Soviet Union's latest initiative on the conventional armaments and armed forces in Europe.

The representatives of the German Democratic Republic, Poland and Czechoslovakia stressed the great importance of the Soviet proposal for strengthening peace and international security.

BOVIN CRITICIZES OPPOSITION TO NUCLEAR TEST BAN

LD202307 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 20 Apr 86

[From the "International Panorama" program, presented by Aleksandr Bovin; Ruehe remarks in German, with superimposed translation]

[Text] One of our concrete proposals aimed precisely at halting the slide toward nuclear disaster is a ban on nuclear weapons tests. Real possibilities for reaching agreement objectively exist. Only one thing stands in the way, the stubborn unwillingness of the White House to negotiate. What do the U.S. allies think in this connection?

[Correspondent Vladimir Kondratyev -- identified from screen caption] We are in the office of Volker Ruehe, deputy chairman of the CDU-CSU faction in the Bundestag. In his party, the Christian Democrats, he is known as a foreign policy expert, and particularly regarding security problems. What does he think about the Soviet nuclear moratorium?

[Ruehe] Ultimately we need an agreement banning nuclear tests, but this cannot be achieved all at once. There is no sense in implementing a freeze on tests for some particular period of international development that has been chosen arbitrarily and is not of long duration. We, therefore, are in favor of talks on both sides. Time is necessary for reflection. There should not be any automatic carrying out of test series by one side or the other. Intermediate solutions are needed. For example, it would be possible to agree on a lower power for warhead devices, on limiting explosions. In pursuing the aim of ending nuclear tests we will not forget that this will not lead to the disappearance of any of the existing nuclear arms. We must also, therefore, pay attention to talks on disarmament and strive to move both these problems forward in an energetic way.

[Kondratyev] The Soviet Union has proposed to the United States that there be an immediate meeting to exchange opinions on the issue of ending nuclear tests. But it took just 1 day for the United States to turn down this proposal.

And I would welcome it if, once the American series is completed -- and certainly during the summit meeting -- if this subject could be discussed and if, as a result, it were possible to find a way out of the automatic commencement of test series and also a way to link this issue with disarmament talks. After all, one cannot achieve what one wants in a single step. Besides, it would be important to agree to technical conditions necessary for the verification of nuclear tests. Time must not be wasted, and over the next few months both sides must begin intensive talks about this.

[Kondratyev] Do you not believe that the conducting of test series by the United States at a time when the Soviet Union is not doing so contradicts the idea of a ban on nuclear explosions?

[Ruehe] The Soviet Union completed its series of explosions earlier, and it would be a good thing if it did not now begin a new one. At this moment there is no sense in dwelling on individual tests. Both sides have carried out several hundred of them. The Unitd States and the Soviet Union must, through limiting the number of explosions, move toward the ultimate goal. One must not, therefore, display maximalism. I repeat: One step here is not enough, the more so in view of the fact that monitoring methods do not exist. It would be of value for the talks if the Soviet Union actively took part in developing technical means for seismic monitoring. Confidence is created where accords can be verified. If one of the sides has doubts about whether or not the other side is keeping to the agreements that have been concluded, then distrust is thereby strengthened and that is undesireable.

[Bovin] Once again we see a contrast: Look how precisely and clearly people talk on the street, and how indeterminate and streamlined are the thoughts of the professional politician. Of course, in principle, Mr Ruehe is in favor of ending tests. But then the brakes in the form of conditions are applied. It cannot be done at once. There has to be time for discussion. Intermediate solutions are needed. The condition is laid down that there has to be talk about verification.

Generally speaking, of course, all this is correct. But this is the point: that to start with you have to sit down at the negotiating table and start discussing all these questions. This is what we are proposing. This is what the Americans do not want. This is indeed the main point that the Bonn politician is doing his best to politely avoid. What is more, in defending Washington's position Mr Ruehe, in my view, is more of an American than the Americans themselves. At any rate, he uses the arguments that the Americans would appear to have overcome: It was in the past that they used to move this way and that, talking about monitoring, about the need to think through and once again think through things. Now they are not deceiving; they state directly that they need to continue tests because they want to develop [sozdavat] new weapons and want to be sure of the reliability of the old ones. That is what it is all about.

They draw up this kind of figure: To start, we have to agree on reducing nuclear armaments, and then later on ending tests. It is turning everything upside down. What is the point of ending nuclear tests? It is precisely this, in order to create more favorable conditions for talks on reducing armaments. If either side is going to be capable of improving nuclear weapons and developing new types of varieties of it, if each of the sides is going to gradually lose its confidence in the reliability of the weapons that already exist, then all this is going to urge an accord and stimulate the search for some kind of mutually acceptable compromise. That is our logic. But for the Americans here, too, the possibility of increasing their strength outweighs all logic. They have already carried out 2 explosions this year, and according to what people are writing they intend to carry out another 12 explosions. Well, so to speak, a nuclear salvo against a new summit meeting. However, I would like to stress that we need this meeting no more than Washington does and if they think otherwise in the White House then they are making a mistake.

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BALKAN COOPERATION MEETING CRITICIZES U.S.

LD240513 Moscow TASS in English 1538 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] Sofia April 23 TASS -- A meeting of representatives of the Bulgarian, Romanian and Greek committees for Balkan mutual understanding and cooperation and also of the Yugoslav League for Peace, Independence and Equality Among Nations opened here.

Its participants share experience in the work to assert the policy of peace, cooperation and goodneighbourliness, to turn the Balkans into a zone free of nuclear and chemical arms. They expressed alarm over the new nuclear tests in the United States and the attacks by the U.S. military on sovereign Libya. These actions by Washington exacerbate tense as it is the situation in the world, the delegates to the forum stressed.

PROPOSAL ON PROFESSIONAL ATHELETES IN OLYMPICS PROTESTED

HK231448 Hong Kong AFP in English 1420 GMT 23 Apr 86

[By Shigemi Sato]

[Excerpts] Seoul, April 23 (AFP) -- The Soviet Union dealt the proposed Olympic athletes' code a possible fatal blow here Wednesday at the general assembly of the Association of National Olympic Committees (ANOC).

Only a few delegates spoke in favour of the code, designed to allow professional sportsmen and women into the Olympics, and the meeting deferred a final decision until a working party have studied alternative ideal for changes to the eligibility rules.

However, Marat Gramov, president of the Soviet Olympic Committee, had other ideas and unleashed a 25-minute tirade against the code and various other developments in sport.

The code would lead to "violence and commercialism" and would negate "our Olympic rights," he said.

Gramov branded some IOC [International Olympic Committee] members as "advertising agents" who wanted to transform the Olympics into a "big show."

Gramov, whose government takes top Soviet athletes under its wing, proposed establishment of a committee to study the consequences of the proposed changes.

COMMENTARY ON UPCOMING TOKYO SUMMIT

Reagan Speech Viewed

LD241734 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1135 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] Washington, 24 Apr (TASS) -- President Reagan made a speech to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce in which he formulated the main themes and agenda for the forthcoming routine Annual Economic Conference in Tokyo of heads of state and government of the seven leading capitalist states.

It follows from the President's speech that the U.S. Administration intends to concentrate most of its efforts on ensuring the practical realization in all directions of the notorious "doctrine of neoglobalism," which provides for crude interference in the affairs of other countries and a diktat of force on the international arena. With this aim in mind, Washington plans to achieve in particular the coordination of the Western countries' efforts under the pretext of "a struggle against terrorism," which, as is known, is used beyond the ocean to disguise policies of armed piracy and state terrorism. The President left no doubt about the fact that the recent bandit raids by the U.S. Air Force on residential areas of Tripoli and Banghazi, which led to many victims among the peaceful population, served as a "model" of how the policy of neoglobalism should be carried out. But, Reagan emphasized, "unilateral actions are not enough. It must be tackled jointly and this will be discussed in Tokyo." Reagan will try to pull together an international coalition against Libya and other countries whom the administration accuses of terrorist activities -- this was CBS television's comment on the President's words.

Later, when answering questions from a group of journalists at the White House, Reagan again launched into attack after attack on Libya, declaring that, if that country's government does not change its policies "we shall act once more." At the same time, overstepping all bounds and, evidently, without thinking about the consequences for the United States, he threatened military action against other countries in the Middle East whose policies do not suit Washington. When asked directly whether he meant Syria and Iran, countries that the U.S. State Department has long regarded as being among those "encouraging terrorism," Reagan replied, "yes."

Seeking to dispel the unfavorable impression that the unrestrained militarist pronouncements by the head of a superpower had made on international opinion, the White House immediately endeavored to "correct" the President. A White House spokesman who preferred to remain anonymous told journalists that the President as he put it, really meant that the United States would be obliged to resort to military force only as an "extreme measure," after all other means of resolving disputes had been exhausted. However, this awkward maneuver did not come off. Under persistent questioning by journalists, he was forced to admit Reagan made no such qualifications during the interview.

Observers draw attention to the fact that there was no mention found on the agenda drawn up by Reagan for the Tokyo conference for an issue as central and vital to world destiny [diya sudeb mira] as the problem of arms control. The President only touched on this crucial question in passing when baldly mentioning Washington's desire for peace.

Turning to financial, economic, and trade matters, which will be discussed in Tokyo, the President tried to depict the United States as an altruistic benefactor of the developing countries. He did his best to sell the administration's so-called "Baker plan," which, on the pretext of providing debtor-countries with emergency aid, aims to further enslave the developing states and interfere in their internal affairs.

The "Baker plan" has already been condemned by a number of developing countries as a neocolonial tool aimed at destroying their social and economic gains, binding them even more closely to the West's economic machine as a source of resources and cheap labor satisfying the selfish interests of Western capital and multinational -- above all, U.S. corporations. As is well known, the developing countries debt burden to the West amounts to $1 trillion. For many debtor countries, interest payments alone exceed export earnings, which means that their debt continues to grow.

Judging by the speech, Washington intends to put pressure on its industrially developed partners. As Reagan unambiguously stated, in Tokyo he will insist that the other members of the "seven" open their markets to U.S. products, and will threaten otherwise to tighten up protectionist measures affecting their exports to the United States.

Baker Plan Criticized

LD241802 Moscow TASS in English 1543 GMT 23 Apr 86

["A Good Deed With Burglary" -- TASS identifier]

[Text] Moscow April 24 TASS -- TASS News Analyst Ivan Ablamov writes:

U.S. President Ronald Reagan, presenting the United States in the role of "benefactor" of the young developing countries, on Wednesday stated an intention to put through the so-called Baker plan at the forthcoming meeting of the 'big seven' in Tokyo. It must be recalled that the plan envisages the allocation in the course of three years of 29,000 million dollars by commercial banks at loans to 15 developing countries which have run into the highest debts.

If one compares this "good deed" with the extent of the plunder of the countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America by the United States and by other leading capitalist powers, the cynicism with which Washington is painting a rosy picture of the U.S. neocolonialist policy is striking. Let us turn to facts. In 1985 alone Western commercial banks gained a net profit of 22,000 million dollars from operations in the developing countries, which incidentally is approximately equal to loans under the Baker plan. Within the same year, 134,500 million dollars were remitted from the newly-free countries to the West as a result of the payment of the monstrous trillions-worth external indebtedness by them and of interest on it. In the period of 1975 to 1985 the developing countries paid a total of 900,000 million dollars to Western "financial benefactors" in repayments of debts and of interest on them. There is no doubt as to who helps whom in actual fact. As was admitted in the latest report of the World Bank, in 1985 the West and, first of all, the United States, pumped 22,000 million dollars more from the developing countries than they have invested in their economies over the same period.

Added to this should be the plunder of the developing countries by U.S. and other TNC's [transnational corporations] which gain in the 'Third World' an average of 2.5 and quite often much more dollars on each vested dollar. The plunder has also the form of inequitable trade. Over the past decade the prices of raw materials from the developing countries went down approximately by half while the cost of industrial import from the USA and other Western countries sharply grew. Even food was included in the sphere of profiteering. For example, African countries now pay for food 14 percent more to the West than a year ago.

As a result of plunder by the United States and other Western powers in 1981-1984 the average annual economic growth rate in Latin America as a whole was nil. Annual GNP increment in Africa is only 0.7 percent, and per capita incomes over there shrink.

This time Washington, speculating on the Baker plan and other financial projects, is presenting the case as if the United States takes care of the "economic growth" of the 'Third World'. But the projects are prompted not by this but by concern for big developing countries, and for greater expansion of TNC's in them. It is not fortuitous that in exchange for the "aid" it is being demanded of the newly-free countries to create the most "favourable climate" for foreign private capital (to the detriment of the state sector), to mothball industrial construction projects and to develop predominantly export-oriented sectors with a view to ensuring the repayment of debts to the West, and so on. It is quite natural that such neocolonialist policy meets with resistance among the countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America.

Mideast 'Marshall Plan' Noted

LD242127 Moscow TASS in English 2025 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 24 TASS -- TASS News Analyst Vasiliy Kharkov writes:

Washington will be exerting pressure on U.S. partners at the coming summit of the major seven capitalist countries in Tokyo to compel them participate intensively in the U.S.-Israeli attempts to impose capitulatory deals on Arab countries. President Reagan said on Wednesday that he will be pursuading the allies to join in the economic program for the Middle East. The White House spokesman Larry Speakes said later that the "Marshall Plan" for the region is what is meant.

The idea of such a plan was advanced by most prominent Jewish financiers in the USA in mid-seventies. The authors of the idea set themselves the aim of ensuring the United States economic domination in the Middle East and of creating the possibilities for the penetration of Arab countries by Israeli capital. This idea was picked up in Tel Aviv. During his recent visit to the USA, Israeli Prime Minister Peres suggested the creation of a special fund "for the economic development of the region on the basis of cooperation". He described his proposal as the "Marshall Plan" for the Middle East by analogy with the U.S. plan for Western Europe that ensured the dominant positions for the United States there.

During the U.S.-Israeli talks last April the sides made it plain for what purpose the "Marshall Plan" for the Middle East had been advanced. Shim'on Peres was quite outspoken in declaring that the present economic difficulties experienced by Arab petroleum extracting countries in connection with a sharp fall off of petroleum prices can make them more plaint with regard to the "peace process" in the Camp David spirit, in other words, to separate deals. THE NEW YORK TIMES wrote in this connection that since the United States political efforts in the Middle East had failed, Washington and Tel Aviv hope to achieve success by making promises of economic aid to some Arab countries.

Where such aid leads can be seen, for instance, on Egypt's example. It follows from what was said by a representative of the U.S. Agency for International Development in the Arab Republic of Egypt that the granting of U.S. aid to Egypt had above all political reasons, namely the striving to draw Cairo in the "peace process" in the Middle East the way it is viewed and implemented by the USA and its strategic ally, Israel. The U.S. press does not sting the praise when describing the advantages Egypt gets from U.S. AID. But here is what the newspaper AL AHRAM wrote in this connection: "The granting of U.S. aid is stipulated by a number of economic and political conditions. The funds Egypt gets must be spent exclusively on the purchase of U.S.-made goods whose prices, as a rule, are 40-60 per cent higher than those of similar products from other countries. The United States views Egypt above all as a vast market".

REAGAN SEEKS LESS CONGRESSIONAL CONTROL OF DEFENSE

LD250928 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0300 GMT 25 Apr 86

[Text] Washington, 25 Apr (TASS) -- TASS correspondent Aleksandr Shalnev reports:

On Thursday, President Reagan sent a special message to congress on the question of reforms in the defense field. As the message stresses, these reforms are aimed at "raising the military effectiveness" of America. Some of these are already being implemented "administratively" as a result of the recently published special presidential instruction. This time the head of the White House is proposing that Congress adopt legislative measures which he considers essential to implement other "significant" reforms.

As can be seen from the message, the White House attaches special importance in particular to providing the greatest "freedom of action" for the Defense Department and reducing to a minium congressional control over its activity and budget. Thus, Reagan expresses open dissatisfaction that too many committees, as he sees it, of both houses of Congress have the right to check various aspects of the U.S. military programs. The President calls for an end to this. As he sees it, Congress' role in the military sphere should be reduced to... "A firm adherence by the legislators to supporting the Armed Forces."

In other words, the head of the White House is calling for Congress to unconditionally rubber-stamp any requests from the administration for more and more billions of dollars for the arms race. It is precisely such reforms which the President calls "significant" in his message.

SHULTZ SAYS U.S. WILL USE MILITARY AGAINST TERRORISM

LD242007 Moscow TASS in English 1942 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] Washington April 24 (TASS) -- U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz has confirmed that under the pleas of "combatting the terrorism: the Washington administration intended to use military power against any sovereign state in the future as well.

The head of the U.S. foreign policy department made it plain in an interview with West European journalists broadcast on channels of the U.S. Information Agency television network that "the United States will use its military power in this fight against terrorism". According to him, the action against Libya is a concrete embodiment of this course of Washington.

U.S. CONTINUING 'PROVOCATIVE SHOW OF FORCE' OFF LIBYA

LD241222 Moscow TASS in English 1158 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] Washington April 24 TASS -- Having embarked on armed interference in the internal affairs of sovereign Libya, the Reagan administration is continuing the provocative show of force off that country's coast.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS today quoted administration officials as saying that American planes from the aircraft-carrier "America
were flying continuously along the Libyan coast.

Fighter-bombers and electronic surveillance planes engaged in gathering information on various facilities on Libyan territory were in the air.

Indicatively, White house and Pentagon officials denied that the United States was continuing any military activity against Libya.

The AP report made it clear that the American aggressors, their heads still dizzy following the bombing of Libya, were brazenly operating in the region in violation of the existing international norms.

The AP observed that the U.S. was supposed to notify world air traffic organizations of its actions in air space off the Libyan coast. According to the AP, "the flights mark an end to the practice of notifying international aviation authorities in advance of flight operations off the Libyan coast."

These actions were thus jeopardising civilian airliners of various nationalities flying through the air space of the middle East region of great importance for the entire world.

"We are going to operate in the region whenever we wish," the AP quoted an identified Washington official.

Local analysts, commenting on the American flights, observed that they were linked with the preparation for another aerial strike on Libya. President Reagan himself repeatedly mentioned this possibility.

The AP also reported that the second American aircraft-carrier "Coral Sea," which was involved in the aggression against Libya, completed its stay in Naples, Italy, and was returning to the Mediterranean.

According to the news agency, the Pentagon already adopted a decision to keep two aircraft-carrier groups in the region. Usually there was only one American aircraft-carrier.

PRAVDA CLAIMS U.S. PREPLANNED ATTACK ON LIBYA

PM240914 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Apr 86 First Edition p 5

[V. Mikhaylov "Observer's Opinion" under general headline "The Libyan People Are Not Alone": "Lynch's Ghost in Washington"]

[Text] "The plans for the combined bombings (of Libya) by naval aircraft and the Air Force were prepared over many months . . . The operation was the culmination of the steps that had been taken." This statement by U.S. military spokesmen which was published in THE WASHINGTON POST confirms that the preparations for the U.S. aggression began long before the bombing of the West Berlin discotheques. Nonetheless, this explosion is still being cited in Washington as the reason for the raid on Libya.

However, in reality it never was, nor could it be, a question of retribution against Libya. The evidence provided by the U.S. military spokesmen in THE WASHINGTON POST is not the only thing that bears this out. There have been reports, for instance, of a secret mission having been dispatched from Washington to Cairo with the aim of prompting Egypt to take part in a joint military operation against Libya from land and sea. There have been reports of millions of dollars being allocated by the special services to organize political assassinations and a coup in the country.

However, the lengthy search for accomplices in the planned aggression against Libya came to nothing. And so the hot heads in Washington decided to go ahead regardless. They joined up with London and got the bombers airborne.

It can now be said that the strike against Libya was simultaneously a strike against the United States itself. Ever since the dirty war in Vietnam, no one has succeeded in placing the United States in such complete international isolation as the Reagan administration has just done. Even the British prime minister is saying now that the next time the United States makes a similar request she will think twice before granting it. All of America's closest allies have dissociated themselves from Washington's act of terrorism. When a White House spokesman stated that Japan's head of government had allegedly also been told in advance about the attack against Libya, Tokyo hastened to deny it.

Now that the world is outraged, Washington would like to mislead the public. A story has been hastily concocted claiming that it is all the fault of...the Soviet Union. A State Department spokesman has said that the U.S. Administration had allegedly appealed to the USSR for cooperation in averting the terrorist act in West Berlin, and that, had the Soviet side responded, the United States need not have resorted to military measures.

This ploy was exposed literally the next day. At a press conference in Moscow it was announced that the U.S. call for "cooperation" made in Berlin did not provide any grounds for joint action.

A day after the press conference in Moscow, Washington confirmed that the U.S. side had indeed failed to furnish the Soviet side with hard facts. So what question could there be of cooperation? Of missed chances?

However, the following question arises in connection with the U.S. statements: If Washington did have the information, why did it not prevent the bomb explosion in West Berlin? This is not a rhetorical question. It is well known that in the West and primarily in the United States, there are forces opposed to international detente. For them, explosions in peaceful cities provide a welcome pretext to beat the military drum. This must not be forgotten, and not just when trying, in retrospect, to assess the "interconnection" between the explosion on the dance floor in West Berlin and the U.S. bombing of Libya.

Now, after the terrorist raid on Libya, Washington is trying to create the false impression among the world public that the U.S. side allegedly "continues to brief" the USSR and "is hoping for cooperation." It would be difficult to come up with anything more cynical. How is it possible with one hand to issue the command to bomb, to kill women and children, while extending the other hand for cooperation! However, the point is not just the immorality of this kind of proposal. You get the impression that the perpetrators of the crime against Libya would now like to provide themselves with some kind of long-term alibi enabling the United States to carry out new acts of state terrorism.

Frankly speaking, what is being done in Washington under the pretext of combatting terrorism is reminiscent of "lynch law." In the old days in America, racists would, under any pretext whatsoever, catch any black they did not like and hang him from the nearest tree. Now the scale and the equipment has changed. The United States is attacking whole states that it does not like. And supersonic bombers have replaced the rope. This is not the only thing that has changed. There are no more defenseless "blacks," or rather states, in the world now. There is no applauding mob of fanatics. Instead there is the outraged world community. And the attempts to introduce "lynch law" into the practice of international relations are a truly futile venture.

SOVIET MUSLIMS DEMONSTRATE AT U.S. EMBASSY IN MOSCOW

LD242107 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Interview with Mafti Shamsutdin Babakhanov, chairman of the Spiritual Directorate of Muslims in Central Asia and Kazakhstan, with correspondent A. Ukhov; from the "Vremya" newscast -- recorded]

[Text] [Ukhov] Representatives of the Soviet Union's Muslim religious leaders went to the U.S. Embassy in Moscow today with the request that it receive and listen to their view regarding the U.S. aggression against Libya. After waiting for a quarter of an hour, the delegation led by Mufti Shamsutdin Babakhanov, chairman of the Spiritual Directorate of Muslims in Central Asia and Kazakhstan, was allowed to enter the embassy. This is the first Soviet public delegation that has been received by U.S. diplomats in Moscow.

[Babakhanov] Well, this is a flagrant action by the United States. Recently in particular the Muslim world has become a target for its attacks. Its latest action against Libya has been a really disgraceful action, and the USSR's Muslims have sent us as a delegation to declare their indignation in a statement addressed to Mr Reagan. We have conveyed our indignation to the first secretary at the embassy.

[Ukhov] How was the meeting with the embassy secretary?

[Babakhanov] Well, it took place. Such occasions cannot fail to have an effect. One could have wished that the meeting had occurred at some other time than at this particular juncture.

[Ukhov] Will the support of the whole world be of any avail in halting the USA's aggression in Libya?

[Babakhanov] It must be of assistance, because public opinion is much stronger than any weapon.

U.S. REPORTEDLY SHIPPING ARMS TO NICARAGUAN CONTRAS

LD242211 Moscow TASS in English 1818 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] New York April 24 TASS -- The United States has covertly shipped to the Nicaraguan contras arms and equipment in the amount which is enough to continue the undeclared war against Nicaragua for many months, AP news agency has reported quoting U.S. officials.

This bears out anew that the Washington administration escalates behind the back of Congress the undeclared war totally disregarding the fact that the House of Representatives voted against the release of 100 million dollars in arms shipment to contras.

JAPANESE SPOKESMAN CITED ON GOVERNMENT STATEMENT

LD241508 Moscow TASS in English 1413 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] Tokyo April 24 TASS -- A document meriting serious study -- this is how a Japanese Foreign Ministry spokesman characterised the April 23 Soviet Government statement.

Speaking in a TASS interview he said that the statement contained a number of new comments concerning first of all the economic aspect of the cooperation of Pacific countries.

"We view the Soviet Government statement as a continuation of the earlier advanced idea of Asian security", the Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

USSR-JAPAN COOPERATION TALKS ASSESSED

LD242303 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1300 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] Tokyo, 24 Apr (TASS) -- A spokesman for the Japanese Foreign Ministry has called the results of the 10th joint conference of the Soviet-Japanese and Japanese-Soviet committees for economic cooperation very useful and important. Replying to a question from Aleksandr Anichkin, a TASS correspondent, he pointed out that the very fact that a large group of representatives from Japanese circles has taken part in the work of the conference speaks for itself. But even more important is the fact that Japanese businessmen who visited the USSR were able to acquaint themselves with the large-scale USSR plans for economic and social development and to discuss opportunities for expanding bilateral economic cooperation, said the Foreign Ministry spokesman.

JAPAN NOT IMPOSING SANCTIONS ON LIBYA

LD241406 Moscow TASS in English 1325 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] Tokyo April 24 TASS -- An official spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan said at a press conference today that Japan did not have enough information to link Libya with the terroristic acts of which the U.S. Administration accused it.

He made it clear that the Japanese Government was not going to reduce the Libyan staff and to resort to other measures which Washington urged its allies to take.

REPORTAGE ON KESHTMAND VISIT TO MOSCOW CONTINUES

Arrival Ceremony

PM230916 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Apr 86 Morning Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Official Visit"]

[Text] At the Soviet Government's invitation Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the PDPA [People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan] Central Committee Politiburo and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers, arrived in Moscow on 21 April for an official visit.

He was greeted on the aircraft steps at Vnukovo airport by N.I. Ryzhkov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and N.V. Talyzin, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politubro and first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

Also taking part in the meeting were V.S. Murakhovskiy, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; M.S. Smirtyukov, administrator of affairs of the USSR Council of Ministers; B.I. Aristov, B.P. Bugayev, and V.A. Shamshin, USSR ministers; K.F. Katushev, chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations; S.A. Losev, general director of TASS; G.M. Korniyenko, USSR first deputy foreign minister; V.T. Saykin, chairman of the Moscow Gorispolkom; and other officials.

The welcoming party included H. Mangal, Afghan ambassador to the USSR, representatives of Moscow's working people, and Afghan students attending VUZes in the capital.

The DRA and Soviet state flags were raised at the airport and an honor guard consisting of troops from the Moscow garrison was mounted. A band played the two countries' national anthems. N.I. Ryzhkov and S.'A. Keshtmand reviewed the formation of Soviet servicemen. The ceremonial meeting ended with a march-past by the honor guard.

The two countries' state flags and greetings banners were raised on the streets and squares along which the motorcade passed accompanied by a motorcycle honor escort.

Guests at Dinner

PM231513 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Apr 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "In a Friendly Atmosphere"]

[Excerpts] A dinner was given 21 April in the Grand Kremlin Palace by the Soviet Government in honor of Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers. Officials accompanying S.'A. Keshtmand on his trip were also present.

On the Soviet side those present included Comrades N.I. Ryzhkov, G.A. Aliyev, E.A. Shevardnadze, N.V. Talyzin, A.F. Dobrynin, first deputy chairmen of the USSR Council of Ministers I.V. Arkhipov and V.S. Murakhovskiy, deputy chairmen of the USSR Council of Ministers, USSR ministers, chairmen of USSR state committees, and other officials.

N.I. Ryzhkov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, delivered a speech at the dinner. Then S.'A. Keshtmand delivered a speech. The speeches by Comrades N.I. Ryzhkov and S.'A. Keshtmand were listened to attentively and greeted with applause. The dinner proceeded in a warm, friendly atmosphere.

Keshtmand's Reception Remarks

LD230708 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0426 GMT 23 Apr 86

[Text] Kabul, Apr 22, BAKHTAR: The revolutionary and nonaligned Afghanistan being an Asian country has a special interest in ensuring peace and security in Asia, said Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, Politburo member of the Central Committee of the PDPA and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the DRA when he was speaking at a reception held in Kremlin Palace. Pursuing such a policy, S.'A. Keshtmand added, the state of the DRA has set forth clear proposals for the political solution of the situation around Afghanistan. The measures taken by the state of the DRA is in full conformity with the Soviet conception to establish peace in Asia.

Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand in his speech emphatically referred to the statement made by M.S. Gorbachev in the 27th Soviet party congress on the agreed terms of the stage-by-stage withdrawals of the Soviet limied contingents from Afghanistan as soon as a political settlement is reached guaranteeing the real termination of the armed intervention from abroad into the internal affairs of Afghanistan and its non-recurrence. The adoption of such an approach, he stressed, is an obvious manifestation of the serious inclination of the DRA and the Soviet Union for finding a political settlement of the situation around Afghanistan.

Now we are awaiting for such a responsible and realistic approach from the other side as well, the chairman of the Council of Ministers said. Unfortunately, Pakistan which is in word in favour of the normalisation of its relations with the DRA but in deed it intensifies its interventions into the internal affairs of Afghanistan which is organised by the United States and its allies and the reaction of the region.

However, the efforts made by the enemies of the April Revolution for reversing the events to the darkness of the past is doomed. The awakened and revolutionary people of Afghanistan will not allow their enemies to fulfill their ominous plans, said S.'A. Keshtmand.

The party and state of the DRA and its people, he emphasized, have been enjoying the reliable support of the Soviet Union, the socialist countries and that of the revolutionary movement of the world. The enriched revolutionary experience of those forces and the all-sided fraternal assistance of the Soviet Union is a guarantor of the final victory of the April Revolution, the chairman of the Council of Ministers said.

Pre-Departure Interview

LD232108 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 23 Apr 86

[Interview by unidentified correspondent with Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, DRA Council of Ministers chairman, on 23 April in Moscow; Keshtmand speaks in vernacular with superimposed Russian translation -- from the "Vremya" newscast; recorded]

[Text] Our visit to the USSR was an additional step in the direction of further strengthening and deepening the fruitful, friendly, and fraternal relations existing between our peoples, governments and parties.

We express deep gratitude for being allowed the opportunity to visit your country an to discuss a number of questions concerning bilateral economic relations.

It is significant that our visit took place at a time when all the Soviet people were celeberating the 116th anniversary of the birth of the great Lenin. During the visit, the signing took place of a number of extremely important documents, which bear witness to the very high level of our current bilateral relations, the foundations of which were laid by Vlidimir Ilich Lenin.

During the talks we were informed about the large-scale creative plans of your government and party aimed at accelerating the country's economic development and about the long-term tasks that were outlined in Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's Political Report. The decisions adopted at the congress are a great school of experience for us. We also understand very well the vast importance of the peace-loving Soviet initiatives and we resolutely support the latest Soviet peace proposals that were made by Comrade Gorbachev at the 11th SED Congress in Berlin. These Soviet initiatives are aimed at curbing the arms race and averting the threat of nuclear catastrophe. They enjoy the all-around support of the whole of the progressive mankind, all the peoples of the world, and, of course, of our Afghan people, whose most sincere wish is to live in peace and to make progress along the path begun by the April Revolution.

Cooperation Documents Signed

PM241415 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Apr 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Signing of Soviet-Afghan Documents"]

[Text] The signing of Soviet-Afghan documents took place in the Kremlin on 22 April.

N.I. Ryzhkov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Minsters, and S. 'A. Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers, signed a treaty between the USSR and DRA Governments on the main directions of economic and trade cooperation.

A protocol on questions of economic cooperation for the period 1986-1990 was signed by K.F. Katushev. chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, and S. Mangal, deputy chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers and chairman of the DRA State Planning Committee.

Present at the signing ceremony were:

On the Soviet side -- N.V. Talyzin, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Minsters; V.S. Murakhovskiy, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; B. I. Aristov, minister of foreign trade; G.M. Korniyenko, USSR first deputy foreign minister, and other officials;

On the Afghan side -- R.M. Paktin, minister of electric energy; M.S. Sorkhabi, minister of irrigation; M. Aziz, minister of light industry and foodstuffs; and H. Mangal, DRA ambassador to the USSR.

A joint communique was adopted on the results of S. 'A. Keshtmand's official visit to the USSR, the text of which will be published in the press.

On the same day the Afghan head of government visited the V.I. Lenin Mausoleum and laid a wreath. He honored with a minute's silence the memory of the creator of the CPSU and founder of the world's first socialist state. Paying a tribute of deep respect to the Soviet servicemen who fell in the struggle against fascism, he laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier by the Kremlin Wall.

Soviet-Afghan Communique

PM241554 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 Apr 86 Morning Edition p 4

["Soviet-Afghan Joint Communique" -- IZVESTIYA headline"]

[Text] At the invitation of the Soviet Government, Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers, was in the Soviet Union from 21-23 April 1986 on an official, friendly visit. The head of the DRA Government and accompanying officials were warmly received -- a reflection of the feelings of friendship felt by the Soviet people toward the Afghan people. The eminent Afghan guest visited the mausoleum of V.I. Lenin and laid a wreath. A wreath was also laid at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at the Kremlin Wall.

Talks were held between N.I. Ryzhkov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and S.'A Keshtmand, during which both sides displayed complete mutual understanding and common views on all questions discussed.

The Soviet side reported on the work under way in the Soviet Union on implementing the tasks put forward by the 27th CPSU Congress. It was stressed that the strategic line that was adopted, the practical program for the acceleration of the socioeconomic development of the Soviet Union, and the course toward consolidating peace on earth are the main political results of the congress. Its decisions determine the nature and the rates of advancement for Soviet society for the years and decades to come.

The Afghan side told of the socioeconomic transformations occuring in the PDPA Central Committee and the extraordinary session of the DRA Revolutionary Council, directed at drawing representatives of broad cross-sections of the population into the implementation of nationwide tasks. It expressed profound gratitude for the all-around help being furnished by the Soviet Union in developing the national Afghan economy and social sphere, and in rebutting the aggression unleashed by forces of imperialism and reaction against the DRA. The Afghan side also told of the efforts it is making for the speedy attainment of a political settlement of the situation around Afghanistan. The basic requirement must be total cessation and guaranteed nonresumption of armed and all external interference in the internal affairs of the DRA.

The Soviet side emphasized that, as noted at the 27th CPSU Congress, the USSR supports Afghanistan's efforts aimed at defending its sovereignty. Full support for the realistic and constructive program of political settlement, put forward by the DRA Government was confirmed. The sides, having recently marked the 65th anniversary of the first Soviet-Afghan treaty, stated with deep satisfaction that the relations of friendship, genuine good-neighborliness and all-around cooperation between the two countries were steadily developing and deepening on the basis of the principles of complete equality, mutual respect for national sovereignty and territorial integrity, and noninterference in each other's internal affairs.

Highly assessing the level of Soviet-Afghan economic cooperation, the sides noted that in recent years it has been imbued with fresh content and has become lasting and stable.

They expressed mutual interest in developing and strengthening cooperation on a long-term and mutally advantageous basis in various fields of the economy and the social sphere, taking into consideration the plans for the economic and social development of both countries. Meeting the wishes of the Afghan side, the Soviet side has announced its readiness to render assistance to the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan in the implementation of the plan for the social and economic development of the DRA for 1986-1990, particularly in the design, construction, expansion, reconstruction, and operation of enterprises and projects in the field of extracting and processing natural gas, oil, solid minerals; the chemical, light, and other industries; the construction of power stations and transmission lines; projects in agriculture, irrigation, transportation, communications, health services, education, and culture; and the acceptance of Afghan citizens for education in Soviet academic establishments.

Having expressed satisfaction with the successful development of Soviet-Afghan trade relations, the participants in the talks declared that the USSR and the DRA will mutually strive to do everything to expand trade on the basis of the principles of equality and mutual advantage and of most favored nation status [naibolshego blagopriyatstvovaniya]. It was noted that an important role in this should be played by the new agreement on trade for the forethcoming 5-year period, signed in February 1986.

A treaty on the basic directions of economic and trade cooperation, and the protocol concerning questions of economic cooperation for 1986-1990 was signed during the visit.

The sides expressed their intention to continue to give constant attention to Soviet-Afghan ties in the sphere of culture, education, health care, and sports. They stated that they will promote an expansion of contacts between Soviet and Afghan organizations and institutions with the goal of deeper familiarization with the life, labor experience, and achievements of the peoples of both countries.

The sides exchanged views on topical international problems. The coincidence of the positions of the USSR and the DRA on the questions discussed and the unanimity in assessment of the situation in the world, and of the reasons for its dangerous tension and opportunities for improvement were noted. The USSR and DRA stressed the importance of joint efforts by all peace-loving forces in counteraction the imperialist policy of aggression and militarism.

The Soviet side reported on its steps aimed at the practical implementation of foreign policy initiatives contained in the 15 January 1986 statement by M.S. Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary, in the CPSU Central Committee's Political Report to the 27th party congress and in the speech by M.S. Gorbachev at the 11th SED Congress.

The Afghan side expressed full support for the plan of step-by-step elimination of nuclear weapons and other means of mass destruction by the end of the present century, which has been proposed by the Soviet Union, and its proposals for the creation of a comprehensive system of international security and considerable reduction of conventional arms and armed forces in Europe.

Both sides affirmed that the adoption of the Soviet nuclear disarmament program would allow a halt to the arms race on earth and not allow its spread into space; it would allow a radical improvement in the situation in the world and a switch of considerable amounts of money to development needs, including for the developing countries.

It was emphasized that at the present stage a question of prime importance, the solution of which would open the way to freeing mankind from nuclear weapons, is to stop testing them without delay.

The DRA welcomed the constructive steps of the Soviet Union directed at solving the question of nuclear tests. The sides declared that the unwillingness of the United States to stop testing nuclear weapons is evidence of the intention of the U.S. Administration to continue its reckless militarist course of accelerating the arms race and acquiring military superiority. The USSR and Afghanistan resolutely condemn this course.

Both sides expressed a firm conviction of the need to persistently strive to unite the efforts of all interested states in order to strengthen peace and safeguard security in Asia. It was stressed here that a joint search for ways to a political settlement of conflict situations and the removal on the basis of the acuity of military confrontation in various regains of the Asian Continent are of particular urgency at the present stage. This would contribute to a stabilization of the situation in the region and the creation of preconditions for further steps along the path of transforming Asia into a zone of peace and good-neighborliness.

The USSR and the DRA noted the urgent need to attain a just and all-encompassing settlement in the Near East on the basis of the withdrawal of Israeli troops from all Arab territories occupied sine 1967, and the need to implement the legitimate right of the Palestinian people to self-determinaton and the creation of its own state.

The sides emphasized that the path to this objective lies through the convocation of an international conference with the participation of all the sides involved, including the PLO, which is the only legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

The sides resolutely condemn U.S. aggression against Libya. The piratical attack carried out by U.S. imperialism against this Arab country cannot be seen in any other way than as a criminal outrage against rights and morals, which constitutes a grave threat to universal peace and security. The USSR and the DRA demand that an end be put to the aggressive actions against the Libyan Jamahiriyah, and reaffirm their solidarity with and support for the Libyan people.

The sides noted the important role of the nonaligned countries as an influential force on the international arena, their contribution to the preservation and consolidation of universal peace; to the prevention of nuclear war; to ending the arms race, to the anti-imperialist struggle for the elimination of racism, neocolonialism, and economic discrimination; and to setting up equal international cooperation. It was stressed by the Soviet side in this connecton that it feels a deep respect for the policy of nonalignment pursued by the DRA.

The side favor the reorganization of international economic relations on a just, democratic basis and for the establishment of a new world economic order that will guarantee the equal economic security of all states. They stressed that it is necessary to replace the principle imposed by militarism -- that of arms instead of development -- with the reverse order of things -- disarmament for development, in order to improve peoples' living conditions and to eliminate economic backwardness and the underdevelopment of many states.

Note was taken of the importance of the task of establishing an all-encompassing system of international economic security, in equal measure guaranteeing every state against discrimination, sanctions, and the other attributes of imperialist, neocolonialist policies. The shared conviction that intercourse between states should be free from arbitrary behavior and illegal embargoes and boycotts, and from trade, credit, and technological blockades, and the use of economic links as a weapon of political pressure and interference in the domestic affairs of sovereign states was expressed. The sides declared themselves to be in favor of holding specific and businesslike talks within the UN framework, with all states participating, to seek a global resolution to the most important international economic problems.

Both sides expressed deep satisfaction at the positive results of the exchange of opinions that took place and expressed confidence that the visit by the head of government of the DRA would serve the further strengthening of friendship, good-neighborliness, and comprehensive cooperation between the USSR and the DRA.

S.'A. Keshtmand expressed sincere gratitude for the warm reception given to him and to those accompanying him in the USSR.

On behalf of the Government of the DRA, S.'A. Keshtmand invited N.I. Ryzhkov, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, to pay an official, friendly visit to the DRA at a time convenient to him. The invitation was accepted with gratitude.

AFGHAN TRIBES VOTE FOR 'NATIONAL FREEDOM'

PM150835 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Apr 86 Morning Edition p 5

[Own special correspondent V. Okulov dispatch: "The Free Tribes' Determination"]

[Text] Kabul, 11 Apr -- The speeches of the participants in the Jirga of the free tribes, which completed its work in Kabul yesterday, were full of pain and anger. The elders and representatives of the Africa, Shinwari, Mohmand, and other Pashtun and Baluchi tribes living in the Pakistan border regions spoke about the crimes perpetrated by the Pakistani military in their mountain settlements. But these were also speeches full of courage and a desire to unite to defend national freedom, human rights, and their honor and dignity against the Pakistani military. The Jirga provided a clear analysis of what had led to the tragic events of the last 2 years and to the genocide practiced against the Pushtuns. The prime cause of Islamabad's aggression, delegates said, is America's desire to use its puppets to dominate our native land, to set up military bases and espionage centers on it, and to use it to continue the undeclared war against the homeland of our ancestors motherland -- revolutionary Afghanistan.

The Jirga delegates' stance was reflected in its resolution. It states the Pushtuns' firm intention to expel the Pakistani rulers' troops and the Afghan dushman gangs from their land. The tribes declared their full support for the revolution in Afghanistan and called on Afghan refugees, duped by imperialist propaganda and counterrevolutionary leaders, to return home and begin a dignified life in their motherland with the DRA Government's humanitarian assistance.

SOVIET OFFICIALS MEET WITH PRESIDENT AQUINO

Kapitsa Meeting Canceled

OW250833 Tokyo KYODO in English 0825 GMT 25 Apr 86

[Text] Manila, April 25 KYODO -- The Soviet Union Friday requested cancellation of a scheduled meeting here between President Corazon Aquino and Mikhail Kapitsa, visiting Soviet deputy foreign minister. Soviet Embassy officials gave Kapitsa's sudden illness as the reason. But his actual health condition was not known immediately.

Kapitsa will return to Bangkok Saturday as originally scheduled, the embassy officials said. He came here while attending the general meeting of the U.N. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) in the Thai capital.

Watchers paid attention to the Aquino-Kapitsa meeting because he was to be the first high-ranking Soviet official to meet her after the birth of her government.

Ambassador Discusses Cooperation

HK170927 Hong Kong AFP in English 0901 GMT 17 Apr 86

[Text] Manila, April 17 (AFP) -- The Soviet ambassador to Manila met Philippine President Corazon Aquino for the first time Thursday to discuss cooperation between their countries.

Ambassador Vadim Shabalin said that moscow had smoothed out what was then considered by diplomats as an embarrasing blunder -- its recognition of now deposed President Ferdinand Marcos as the winner of a disputed February 7 election.

The ambassador, posted here two and a half months ago, had congratulated Mr. Marcos after the latter was proclaimed the winner over Mrs. Aquino. He was the only diplomat to do so.

"During our conversation with President Aquino, we discussed our bilateral relations... the prospect of cooperation, as well as thrashed out some points on international issues that are of mutual interest," he told reporters at the presidential palace.

"I would like to tell you that the President of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. which is our parliament and the highest authority in our country, sent a message of congratulations to Mrs. Aquino on the 27th of February," two days after Mr. Marcos fled in exile, Mr. Shabalin said.

Widely held to have been rigged in Mr. Marcos's favor, the conduct of the February poll sparked a military mutiny which led to a popular revolt that ended the Marcos government in February.

Asked if the U.S.-Libyan crisis was discussed, he said: "I believe in general I answered the question." Manila has said it would have no part in the affair.

SRV'S DONG SI NGUYEN DISCUSSES ISSUES WITH RYABOV

PM241504 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 24 Apr 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Conversation Held"]

[Text] Ya. P. Ryabov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, received on 23 April, Dong Si Nguyen, candidate member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee Politburo, vice chairman of the SRV Council of Ministers, and SRV minister of transportation and communications. During the conversation they discussed questions concerning the further expansion of Soviet-Vietnamese economic cooperation.

The conversation was held in a warm comradely atmosphere.

Confers With Aliyev

LD241827 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1730 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] Today Comrade Aliyev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy charman of the USSR Council of Ministers, met in the Kremlin with Dong Si Nguyen, candidate member of the Vietnamese Communist Party Central Committee Politburo deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of transport of the SRV.

During the conversation there was discussion of some issues of Soviet-Vietnamese economic and scientific-technical cooperation. Particular attention was paid to problems of developing transportation in Vietnam.

SRV PREMIER RECEIVES COAL MINISTER SHCHADOV

PM240856 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 Apr 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Hanoi Reception]

[Text] Hanoi, 18 Apr -- Pham Van Dong, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the SRV Council of Ministers, has received a Soviet delegation headed by M.I. Shchadov, member of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR minister of the coal industry. The delegation is here on a visit.

The Vietnamese leader noted the good results of Soviet-Vietnamese cooperation in the sphere of coal industry development. He thanked the USSR for its all-round assistance in exploiting coalfields in Vietnam and expressed the belief that the development of cooperation in this sphere will continue to be fruitful.

CZECHOSLOVAK FOREIGN MINISTER VISITS MOSCOW

Met by Shevardnadze

LD241505 Moscow TASS in English 1417 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 24 TASS -- Bohuslav Chnoupek, a member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, minister of foreign affairs of Czechoslovakia, arrived in Moscow today for an official friendly visit at the invitation of the Soviet Government.

At the airport he was met by Eduard Shevardnadze, a member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, minister of foreign affairs of the U.S.S.R., and other officials. Miroslav Zavadil, ambassador of Czechoslovakia to the U.S.S.R., was among the welcoming party.

Shevardnadze-Chnoupek Talks Begin

LD242012 Moscow TASS in English 2001 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 24 TASS -- Talks began here today between Eduard Shevardnadze, a member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee and minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, and Bohuslav Chnoupek, a member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia and minister of foreign affairs of Czechoslovakia, who had arrived in the Soviet Union on an official visit of friendship.

Moscow Talks Continue

LD250912 Prague Domestic Service in Czech and Slovak 0800 GMT 25 Apr 86

[Text] The Soviet Union -- Talks are continuing today in Moscow between Bohuslav Chnoupek and Eduard Shevardnadze, the ministers of foreign affairs of Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union. Bohuslav Chnoupek has laid wreaths at the Lenin Mausoleum on Red Square and at the Tomb of the Unknown Warrior at the Kremlin Wall.

Speeches Given at Luncheon

LD251007 Moscow TASS in English 0950 GMT 25 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow, April 25 TASS -- Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and foreign minister of the USSR, today gave a luncheon in honour of Bohuslav Chnoupek, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia and foreign minister of Czechoslovakia.

Present at the luncheon from the Soviet side were Petr Demichev, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and minister of culture of the USSR, and other officials, from the Czechoslovak side -- the persons accompanying Chnoupek, as well as Czechoslovakia's ambassador to the USSR, Miroslav Zavadil. Shevardnadze and Chnoupek exchanged speeches during the luncheon.

ANTONOV, BULGARIAN TRANSPORTATION MINISTER MEET

PM241458 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 24 Apr 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "In the Interests of Both Countries"]

[Text] A.K. Antonov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, received Bulgarian Minister of Transport V. Tsanov on 23 April and held a conversation with him on questions concerning the expansion of economic, scientific, and technical cooperation between the USSR and Bulgaria in the sphere of transport.

LIZICHEV-LED DELEGATION TRIP TO BULGARIA REPORTED

PM241010 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 22 Apr 86 Single Edition p 3

[Unattributed report: "Delegation's Stay"]

[Text] Army General A.D. Lizichev, member of the CPSU Central Committee and chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate, visited Bulgaria 16 through 20 April with a delegation at the invitation of the Bulgarian People's Army Main Political Directorate.

Army General A.D. Lizichev was received by Y. Yotov, member of the Political and secretary of the BCP Central Committee, and Army General D. Dzhurov, member of the BCP Central Committee Politburo and Bulgarian national defense minister. During talks with Colonel General M. Mitkov, member of the BCP Central Committee and chief of the Bulgarian People's Army Main Political Directorate, and with other leading political workers of the Bulgarian People's Army there was an exchange of opinions on urgent questions of party political work stemming from the 27th CPSU Congress and 13th BCP Congress decisions.

The chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate visited military units, enterprises, and historical sites in the fraternal country and had meetings with responsible Bulgarian party and state workers; generals, officers, and personnel of the Bulgarian People's Army; and working people. The meetings took place in a spirit of cordiality and traditional fraternal friendship and contributed to mutual enrichment with experience of the education and training of servicemen and the work of commanders, political organs, and party organizations in fulfilling the 27th CPSU Congress and 13th BCP Congress decisions and enhancing the defense might of the two fraternal Warsaw Pact countries.

Army General A.D. Lizichev and the persons accompanying him laid wreaths at the Mausoleum of Georgi Dimitrov, the memorial to the unknown warrior, and the monument in honor of the Soviet Army.

On 20 April Army General A.D. Lizichev returned to Moscow with the persons accompanying him. He was met at Sheremetyevo Airport by Admiral A.I. Sorokin, first deputy chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate, by Colonel General V.S. Nechayev and Lieutenant General D.A. Volkogonov, deputy chiefs of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate, and by other responsible political workers.

The welcoming party included Major General B. Toshkov, military, naval, and air attache at the Bulgarian Embassy in the USSR.

SOVIET TU DELEGATION ARRIVES FOR POLISH FESTIVAL

PM221417 Moscow TRUD in Russian 22 Apr 86 p 3

[Special correspondents Yu. Vasilkov, V. Yermolayev report: "Friendly Cooperation: Ceremonial Opening of the Soviet Trade Unions Festival in Poland"]

[Text] Warsaw, 21 Apr -- A Soviet trade union delegation headed by AUCCTU Secretary K. Yu. Matskyavichyus has arrived in Warsaw to take part in the Soviet Trade Unions Festival in Poland at the invitation of the National Trade Union Federation [OPZZ].

Delegations from trade union Central Committees, oblast trade union councils, and labor collectives, which maintain constant friendly, businesslike ties with related Polish enterprises, will also take part in the festival. The delegations include trade union workers, production frontrunners, and 27th CPSU Congress delegates.

On the festival program are meetings at enterprises in Warsaw, Katowice, Krakow, Gdansk, and many Polish voivodships. There will be an all-around exchange of opinions on the trade unions' tasks and the ways of further strengthening ties between the two countries' working people.

On the eve of the festival a series of items appeared in the Polish press stressing the great significance of these meetings. TRYBUNA LUDU wrote in its Sunday issue that the Soviet Trade Unions Festival in Poland will enrich the experience necessary for further deepening mutual cooperation. ZYCIE WARSZAWY stresses that the dynamic development of contacts with the Land of the Soviets is a characteristic feature of the international activity of the reborn Polish trade union movement. The central trade union weekly ZVIEZKOWIEC: TYGODNIK POPULARNY, in an editorial, expresses the hope that the forthcoming bilateral meetings will serve to strengthen friendship between the Polish and Soviet peoples.

The ceremonial opening of the festival took place at Warsaw's M. Nowotko machines plant.

The Soviet guests were welcomed by OPZZ Vice Chairman L. Brojanowski. A speech was delivered by AUCCTU Secretary K. Yu. Matskyavichyus. He noted that the USSR Trade Unions Festival in Poland is taking place during a remarkable period. The 27th CPSU Congress adopted strategically important decisions, which the Soviet trade unions are working to implement. In Poland, preparations for the 10th PZPR Congress and the 2d National Trade Union Conference are in full swing. The AUCCTU secretary told those present that the collectives of a number of major Soviet enterprises, which cooperate with related Polish enterprises, have adopted socialist pledges in honor of the 10th PZPR Congress.

Increasing the effectiveness of bilateral cooperation, the speaker went on, a businesslike, creative, and constructive exchange of opinions and experience, and an innovative approach to the questions under discussion -- these are the demands of the times. As practice shows, this kind of work brings the best results and endows with more concrete content and lifts to a new level the development of our friendship and cooperation, which are based on the immutable principles of Marxism-Leninism.

On the first day of its stay in Poland the AUCCTU delegation was received by M. Wizniak, member of the Politburo and secretary of the PZPR Central Committee.

The delegations from the USSR dispersed to visit various Polish voivodships. A week of intensive work lies ahead. The festival lasts until 26 April.

POLISH-SOVIET TREATY JUBILEE CELEBRATED

PM211325 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Apr 86 First Edition p 4

[Dispatch by own correspondent O. Losoto: "Time Has Confirmed It"]

[Excerpts] Warsaw, 20 Apr -- Today the Soviet and Polish peoples celebrate a notable date -- the 41st anniversary of the treaty of friendship, cooperation, and mutual aid. This treaty has become the unshakable foundation of the fraternal alliance between the USSR and Poland and loyally serves the cause of peace, progress, and socialism.

In recent years a qualitatively new stage has come to Polish-Soviet relations. The consistent implementation of the long-term program for the development of economic and scientific-technical cooperation between the USSR and Poland for the period through 2000 and other agreements and bilateral accords and of the reciprocal commitments within the CEMA framework serves the further intensification of cooperation and integration and the resolute acceleration of the two countries' socioeconomic development.

In the current 5-year plan the Soviet Union will take part in the completion of the modernization and construction of 11 major industrial projects in Poland. Five joint Soviet-Polish enterprises will be created. Production sharing will start to develop rapidly. It is planned that trade turnover undertaken within the framework of sharing agreements should double by the end of the 5-year plan. This form of cooperation will be implemented primarily in aircraft and motor vehicle building, in creating construction and road equipment, in electronics, atomic power engineering, and several other sectors.

The protocol on coordinating scientific-technical cooperation for 1986-1990 provides for over 90 Polish and 180 Soviet scientific research organizations taking part in its implementation. Many dozens of types of machinery, apparatus, equipment, new materials and biological products, and manufacturing processes will be jointly developed and introduced.

The Polish side supplies the USSR with equipment for modernizing plants for the production of sulfuric acid, machinery and equipment for the production complex, and a wide range of machine tools and other articles.

The Soviet-Polish treaty not only regulates the two countries' fraternal relations. It has become an important factor of peace and stability and the inviolability of borders in Europe. Poland resolutely supports the broad complex of Soviet peace initiatives aimed at eliminating nuclear weapons and other means of mass destruction and the principles for creating a comprehensive system of international security approved by the 17th CPSU Congress.

Impressing prospects have been outlined for the Soviet Union's development. The new heights that People's Poland should scale were outlined in the documents published for the 10th PZPR Congress. Their discussion is now under way in the party and labor collectives.

In their advance, in the solution of the great and complex socioeconomic tasks, the CPSU and the PZPR and the USSR and Poland rely on the fraternal alliance, cooperation, and mutual aid of our countries and peoples and entire socialist community.

FRENCH DAILY CLAIMS U.S. AIRCRAFT FLEW OVER PYRENEES

LD231408 Moscow TASS in English 1318 GMT 23 Apr 86

[Text] Paris, April 23 TASS -- The French Weekly LE CANARD ENCHAINE says:

The Americans have made a laughing-stock of the French and Spanish Governments. This is the opinion of many French officers claiming to be well-informed. According to them, the U.S. F-111 bombers based in Britain, whose mission was to drop hundreds of tonnes of bombs on Libyan targets, did not round the Pyrenees, as everybody claimed. No, they cut their way short and crossed the Pyrenees from West to East.

That was an insolent trick: Thus, U.S. Air Force planes flew over parts of French and Spanish territory without permission from either Paris or Madrid. On April 19, the newspaper LE MONDE mentioned such a possibility, saying that eighteen F-111 aircraft could well slip through, taking advantage of the mountain terrain of the Pyrenees.

Hence it follows that all the maps published in the press and showing the route along which Reagan's bombers allegedly flew, were faked up. It must be noted for that matter that the maps were made up according to information received from the Americans themselves. Yet the F-111 aircraft entered the Mediterranean not through Gibraltar, but across the French-Spanish Pyrenees. Only 40 tanker planes (KC-10 and KC-135), which were used for that mission, obediently flew by the longest route through Gibraltar.

The F-111 flew over the mountain range in the dead of the night and almost at the level of the mountains, so that Spanish and French radars could not detect them.

The F-111 aircraft are equipped with onboard radars making it possible to set course with due regards for the terrain, without any interference by the pilots.

They at the U.S. Embassy in Paris take no chances. We are no source of information about F-111 planes and are not going to contradict Whitehead, one diplomat said. Addressing press conference last week, John Whitehead, U.S. deputy secretary of state, denied the fact that American bombers had flown over the French territory. Probably he believes that the Pyrenees belong to Spain or Britain.

MARCHUK, UK'S WALKER SIGN ENERGY PROTOCOL

LD240951 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] Marchuk, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Committee for Science and Technology, today received British Secretary of State for Energy Walker who is in the USSR on an official visit at the invitation of the State Committee for Science and Technology.

Talks took place on questions of deepening scientific-technical and economic cooperation in the field of the fuel and power complex. A protocol was signed concerning cooperation between the State Committee for Science and Technology and the British Department of Energy in the field of the fuel and power complex. British Ambassador to the USSR Cartledge was present.

SOVIET AMBASSADOR COMMENTS ON RELATIONS WITH FRG

DW250653 Mainz ZDF Television Service in German 1945 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Interview with new Soviet ambassador to Bonn Yuliy Kvitsinskiy by correspondent Susanne Gelhard in Bonn; date not given -- recorded]

[Text][Gelhard] How do you think German-Soviet relations have developed since you were last here?

[Kvitsinskiy] I was here as an envoy for 3 years, from 1978 to 1981. They were productive years for our relations, and working here was fun. We are now undergoing a more complicated period in international life and, of course, it reflects on the relations between our states. I suggest concentrating on improving the current state of affairs. Our relations are worthy and capable of improvement. I believe that much, and much good, can be done and that in no case must be substance of our relations deteriorate. On the contrary, they must be enhanced in specific fields between parties, organizations, social groups, and people in our countries. To this end, we have a solid basis, the Moscow Treaty, and to this end we have the sincere will of our people to live always in peace.

We should try to the best of our ability to convert that into concrete actions, above all in the fields of disarmament and security, banishing the danger of nuclear war, destroying chemical weapons, and preventing a space weapons race.

[Gelhard] Do you intend to take a walk with your U.S. counterpart Richard Burt some time?

[Kvitsinskiy] There are candidates here for taking a walk other than Mr Burt. Still, I believe I will cultivate the usual contacts with Mr Burt that are customary between the ambassadors of the great powers.

FRG BUNDESTAG DEBATES 'STAR WARS' PARTICIPATION

PM241310 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Apr 86 First Edition p 5

[Own correspondent Yu. Yakhontov dispatch "Deaf as Well as Blind; Bonn and the U.S. 'Star Wars' Plans"]

[Text] Bonn, April -- At the end of the last week there was a Bundestag debate in Bonn on the agreements concerning the FRG's participation in the U.S. "star wars" project that were signed in Washington. No matter how paradoxical this may seem, the parliament was discussing documents that only a few deputies had seen and read at the time. This was because -- allegedly at the request of the U.S. ally -- the agreements had been declared classified and thus inaccessible for the overwhelming majority of the "people's representatives."

This is perhaps why, as I was approaching the Bundestag building in the morning, I did not see many people at the doors, there was no bustle around the cloakrooms, and none for the usual crush by he hall where the sessions are held. It is true that the upper level, where the boxes for diplomats, journalists, and spectators are located, was filled to capacity. By contrast in the hall below, designed to seat 500 deputies, whole rows of seats were empty. At a generous estimate, there were perhaps 100 people including members of the government who sit on a special platform.

Nonetheless, a 3-hour debate was held. It was all done more for the sake of form since, in this case, the law does not require parliament to endorse or pass any of the papers signed in Washington. They are very carefully worded to make it appear that participation in SDI does not apply to the FRG as a state but merely to the country's private firms and enterprises. The ruling circles needed this ploy in order to be able to sidestep a vote in the Bundestag which would have inevitably caused a scandal.

M. Bangemann, the economics minister, took the floor. He signed the documents in Washington that served as a necessary political prop for Reagan in his "star wars" plans and transformed the FRG into an accessory in the program for the militarization of space.

It was not without reason that the participants of the "Krefeld Initiative" antiwar group wrote in their letter to West German Bundestag deputies that "SDI represents a tremendous threat to mankind and a challenge to the peace movement. Politically, SDI means a rejection of detente, arms control, and disarmament. SDI which is an integral part of the U.S. war potential is economically ruinous and morally unacceptable. It is a strategically destabilizing initiative."

This was not what Bangemann spoke about, of course. Backed by representatives of the Christian Democratic Democratic Union siashChristian Social Union parliamentary faction including the federal chancellor, he tried to convince his audience that the signing of the two documents in Washington -- on "technological exchange" and the participation of West German firms in SDI -- was all but a victory won by the FRG over its "intractable" U.S. ally trying to sidestep various kinds of commitments without which the agreement, according to Bonn's claims, would have been "impossible." Bangemann and his colleagues in the ruling coalition claimed that the United States is now obliged to consult its allies who have joined in the elaboration of the project, that the whole SDI program is allegedly a "peaceful" program, and that the FRG's interests will in no way suffer.

However, the speeches of representatives of the opposition, including the prominent Social Democratic Party figures E. Bahr and H. Ehmke and the "Green" Party deputy A.-M. Borgmann and, incidentally, other speakers too, completely disproved the claims of the advocates of the "star wars" project. To applause from deputies of their own factions and angry cries from their political opponents -- defenders of SDI trying to disrupt their speeches -- they exposed the true nature of the agreements signed with Washington, pointing out their danger not just for the FRG but for the cause of world peace. As for the "consultations" with SDI partners promised by the United States, the barbaric raids carried out by the U.S. Air Force against Libyan cities provide a graphic example of Washington's disregard for its allies. What grounds are there to believe that in connection with "star wars" the United States is going to behave differently?

The day after the Bundestag debate, the Cologne newspaper EXPRESS published the secret documents that were signed in Washington. They expose the true nature of the collusion concerning the FRG's participation in SDI. They confirm how well-founded the criticism leveled at the FRG Government not only in the Bundestag but also in the press and broad public circles was. They also reveal why the country's leading figures spared no effort to keep the content of these documents from the public. It is enough to cite a single detail: The U.S. side, as of now, has the right to stop deliveries of equipment and goods by West German firms to the USSR and other socialist countries. And that in conditions where the FRG considers itself to be an independent country!

The Bundestag debate and the revelations that followed it have thus once again demonstrated that FRG ruling circles not only do not want to see the precipice toward which they are pushing their country by involving it in the U.S. military adventure in space.

Neither do they want to hear protests against blindly following in Washington's wake. This means that those people in Bonn who are prepared to make any concessions to Washington are not just politically blind, but also deaf.

U.S. MANEUVERS IN BADEN-WUERTTEMBURG SCORED

PM231301 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Apr 86 Morning Edition p 4

[Report by Ye. Grishin: "Militarist Itch"]

[Text] Bonn -- Maneuvers by American troops stationed in the FRG have begun on the West German territory of Baden-Wuerttemburg.

Pershing-2 nuclear missile formations of the 56th U.S. Army Artillery Brigade are participating in the militarist games on FRG territory that are to last until 24 April. In particular, they are being put on a state of alert. The West German public regards these operations as a serious threat to the country's security. The FRG well remembers the explosion of one of the Persing-2 missile engines that occurred in January 1985 at the U.S. military base in Beilbron (Baden-Wuerttemburg Land). It was caused by the ignition of a rocket motor during ground tests. As a result, three U.S. servicemen were killed and seven seriously injured.

Mass meetings, marches, and demonstrations have been held near U.S. missions and military installations in Bonn, Cologne, Hamburg, Mannheim, and many other cities in the FRG. The participants demand that Washington immediately end its dangerous game of playing with fire and remove from the FRG the Pershing-2 and cruise missiles posing a deadly danger.

DOBRYNIN ATTENDS CPSU-SPD SESSION ON MILITARY EXPENSES

LD221815 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1640 GMT 22 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow, 22 Apr (TASS) -- The working group of the CPSU and the Social Democratic Party [SPD] of Germany held its fourth session in Moscow on 21-22 April, on the question of reducing military expenditure and using part of the money freed to provide assistance to developing countries.

The participants in the session were: on the CPSU side -- Anatoly Dobrynin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Vadim Zagladin, member of the CPSU Central Committee; Yevgeniy even Primakov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee; on the SPD side -- Egon Bahr, member of the SPD Presidium: and FRG Bundestag deputies Peter Wurtz and Uwe Holtz.

During the session the results of work so far were summed up. The results achieved will be presented to the leadership of both parties. The work of the group will be continued.

REPORTAGE ON BELGIAN COMMUNIST PARTY CONGRESS

CPSU Delegation Departs Moscow

LD180234 Moscow TASS in English 1618 GMT 18 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 17 TASS -- A delegation of the CPSU headed by member of the CPSU Central Committee, First Secretary of the Sverdlovsk Regional CPSU Committee Yuriy Petrov left Moscow for Brussels today to take part in the work of the 25th Congress of the Communist Party of Belgium at the invitation of that party's Central Committee.

Central Committee Greetings

PM181404 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Apr 86 First Edition p 1

[Text] To the 25th Belgian Communist Party [PCB] Congress

Dear Comrades!

The CPSU Central Committee warmly greets the delegates to the fraternal PCB's 25th Congress and wishes the congress successful work.

Your supreme party forum is taking place at a difficult time, when extremely dangerous tension is being maintained in international affairs through the fault of imperialism's most aggressive and shortsighted circles.

As for the CPSU, its recent 27th congress confirmed the main direction of its activity in the international arena. This is the struggle against the nuclear danger and the arms race and for the preservation and strengthening of world peace.

The concept of creating a comprehensive system of international security and the program of specific action aimed at eliminating nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction everywhere before the end of this century while preventing the militarization of space -- a concept and a program elaborated by our congress -- open up the real possibility of a breakthrough for the better in the development of the international situation.

In advancing its new initiatives, the Soviet Union proceeded both from the need to uphold the loftiest right of man and mankind -- the right to life -- and from the national interests of our country's people. We need peace to resolve the tasks of accelerating our country's socioeconomic development, further democratizing society, deepening the people's socialist self-management, and comprehensively improving the socialism we have built on the way to communism.

Soviet Communists well understand how complicated conditions have become for the activity of a communist party in such a developed capitalist country as Belgium, where the scientific and technical revolution leads just to the deepening of the economic and social crisis. Soviet people sincerely respect the PCB's desire in a situation of increasing class contradictions to struggle still more determinedly for the immediate and long-term aims of the working class and for the interests of all working people. We value highly your joint activity with the country's mass antiwar and antimissile forces in favor of the total destruction of medium-range missiles in the European zone -- a very important step on the way to Europe's complete liberation from nuclear weapons.

We wish Belgian Communists successes in strengthening the party's ranks on class, internationalist positions, in surmounting difficulties, in widening mass support for the PCB's positions with a view to implementing its program guidelines, and in the struggle for the working people's vital interests, for democracy and social progress, and for peace.

May the relations of friendship and cooperation between our parties and between the Soviet and Belgian peoples strengthen and develop.

The CPSU Central Committee

Congress Ends

LD212306 Moscow TASS in English 1610 GMT 20 Apr 86

[Text] Brussels April 20 TASS -- The 25th Congress of the Communist Party of Belgium (CPB) came to a close here today. It has been held in a tense international situation, in the conditions of the aggravation of the socio-economic crisis and class struggle in the country.

The delegates to the congress head the CPB Central Committee's report delivered by Louis van Geyt, chairman of the party. Deliberations on the report as well as on a political document, prepared by the Central Committee and analyzing the CPB's activities in the present-day complex internal political situation, were held in working groups. The congress passed resolutions on the matters discussed, elected a new composition of the party's Central Committee. A closing speech at the congress was made by CPB Chairman Louis van Geyt.

The congress of the Belgian Communists was attended by delegations of foreign fraternal parties, among them the CPSU delegation. Yu.V. Petrov, the leader of the delegation, member of the CPSU Central Committee, first secretary of the Sverdlovsk Regional Committee of the party, handed over a portrait of Vladimir I. Lenin, the Soviet Communists' gift to the congress.

REPORT ON NORWAY STORTING DELEGATION'S USSR TALKS

PM240934 Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 16 Apr 86 p 3

[Morten Malmo dispatch: "Soviet Union: Unfriendly of Norway"]

[Text] Moscow -- "I reacted strongly and felt offended," an enraged Storting President Jo Benkow said after a meeting yesterday with members of the Supreme Soviet. At the meeting, a member of the Soviet General Staff had said that together with its allies Norway had undertaken a military escalation in the northern regions -- an escalation that was described by the Russian side at the meeting as an unfriendly action.

Yesterday's talks took place in the Kremlin. The Soviet delegation was led by Chairman of the Soviet of the Union Lev Tojkunov. During the 2-hour meeting, chiefly the Soviet hosts spoke.

The Soviet side expressed concern at what it claimed was an allied military buildup in the northern regions. Buzzwords such as the contingency stockpiling of allied equipment in Norway and the expansion of the Omega and Loran C radar and warning systems were mentioned in this connection. The Soviet Russians also said that there were almost continual exercises by Norway and its allies in the northern regions. "One military exercise succeeds another," was the phrase used, and, according to AFTENPOSTEN's information, a member of the General Staff said: "We hope that these unfriendly Norwegian actions will soon be history."

An enraged Storting President Jo Benkow said after the meeting that such a description of military activities in the north has nothing to do with the facts. However, Benkow emphasized the need for continued contacts because there is a lot of clarification that needs to be done. Storting Foreign Affairs Committee Deputy Chairman Knut Frydenlund did not react with such strong emotions to yesterday's remarks by the Soviet side. Frydenlund called yesterday's meeting "a warmup in the traditional sense for the further talks on Wednesday [16 April]." It is possible that the Norwegian delegation will get to meet President Andrey Gromyko.

At a separate meeting yesterday with Soviet of the Union Chairman Lev Tolkunov, Storting President Jo Benkow asked that historian Aleksandr (Kahn) be given an exit visa from the Soviet Union. (Kahn) is a specialist on Nordic history. Tolkuov is supposed to have said that it is difficult to give people who are in possession of state secrets exit visas, but Benkow said that this could hardly settle the issue. However, Tolkunov did promise to look into the (Khan) affair more closely.

He promised to do the same with the question of whether a 50-year-old widow can visit her daughter and son-in-law in Norway.

Benkow also delivered an appeal from the Norwegian Labor Party's women's movement that nine imprisoned women should be released. According to AFTENPOSTEN's information, after yesterday's talks between Benkow and Tolkunov hopes that this latter issue will be successfully resolved are not great.

Further Report

PM241040 Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 17 Apr 86 p 3

[Morten Malmo report: "Norwegian-Soviet Group for Human Rights? -- 'Worth the Whole Soviet Visit'"]

[Text] Moscow -- A joint Norwegian-Soviet parliamentarians group could be set up to deal with human rights questions. A desire for this was hinted at by the Soviet side in talks with Norwegian politicians in Moscow yesterday. Storting President Jo Benkow said that this position is pleasing, and added that the Storting presidency will pursue the matter with the Soviet authorities.

It was at yesterday's meeting between the Norwegian Storting delegation and Central Committee International Department First Deputy Chairman Vadim Zagladin that this matter was raised -- such a result is not after all an everyday occurrence and was worth the whole of the visit to the Soviet Union. The fact that on the Soviet side there is a desire for talks on human rights shows that he Soviet side recognizes this problem, Benkow said. At yesterday's meeting the Storting president, on behalf of the Storting, invited Zagladin to Norway.

The Norwegian Storting delegation should have had a meeting with USSR President Andrey Gromyko yesterday, but the meeting did not take place. Gromyko was in the hospital due to influenza and a high temperature. Instead the Norwegian politicians met Gromyko's deputy, Orlov.

The U.S. star wars program was also raised during the talks in Moscow. The Soviet side said that the implementation of the star wars program would make an agreement on strategic weapons impossible. The Soviet side also said that it is also prepared to negotiate to bring about an agreement on medium-range missiles in Europe.

The meetings between Soviet and Norwegian politicians yesterday had a more conciliatory tone than those that took place the day before when a member of the Soviet General staff described NATO exercises in the northern regions as an unfriendly act on Norway's party. Storting President Jo Benkow reacted strongly to this.

Not unnaturally the Norwegian politicians wanted yesterday to be told about the concessions the Soviet Union is willing to make in order to bring about the establishment of a nuclear-free zone in the Nordic area. The answer came that the Soviet side could envisage giving the Baltic its own status and that measures on the Soviet Union's own territory could possibly also be discussed.

The question of new demarcation line talks in the Barents Sea between Norway and the Soviet Union was raised, but nothing new emerged on this point. The situation on the oil market was also discussed and Gunnar Berge (Labor Party), who raised the question, told AFTENPOSTEN that the Soviet Union wants stability in oil prices. The Soviet politicians are also worried about oil-producing developing nations' economic problems caused by the drop in oil prices.

During the visit Storting President Jo Benkow also said that a KLASSEKAMPEN newspaper reporter should have been given a visa to visit the Soviet Union in connection with the Norwegian politicians' visit. The visa refusal simply damages the Soviet Union, Benkow said.

The week-long visit ends today with a trip to the town of Zagorsk outside Moscow. Zagorsk is the headquarters of the Russian Orthodox Church. No political talks are planned for today. Yesterday evening the Norwegian delegation visited the circus in the Soviet capital.

UN ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE MEETS

LD240905 Moscow TASS in English 0654 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 24 TASS -- PRAVDA correspondent in Geneva Vladimir Bolshakov wrote in the newspaper today that "the 41st session of the U.N. Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) is held in conditions of the aggravated international situation".

V. Loginov, USSR deputy minister of foreign affairs, head of the Soviet delegation at the 41st session, said in a PRAVDA interview that the attempts of Washington to impose its diktat upon other countries and peoples, which clearly manifested itself during the bandit attack on Libya, could not but affect the sphere of economic cooperation of nations with different social systems.

V. Loginov said: "The Soviet Union firmly and consistently stands for a broad and unhampered development of international economic relations and opposes any forms of discrimination and any measures involving economic pressure for political purposes".

The results of the work of the ECE over the years that have elapsed since the Helsinki Conference will be discussed at the meeting in Vienna of representatives of countries -- participants in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe which is to be held next autumn.

Pointing out the role played by the ECE in the Helsinki process, Z. Kurovski, deputy secretary of the CMEA, said in a PRAVDA interview: "The CMEA delegation is absolutely sure that one of the main tasks of the ECE is the promotion of the normalization of the world political climate, which is one of the main goals of the Helsinki Final Act".

AFTERMATH OF U.S. RAID ON LIBYA REPORTED

Missile Cruiser Visits Tripoli

LD250955 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0925 GMT 25 Apr 86

[Text] Tripoli, 25 Apr (TASS) -- The Missle cruiser Vitse-Admiral Drozd is drawing a lot of attention at the moment among inhabitants of the Libyan capital. They know that the cruiser under a Soviet naval flag has arrived on a business visit [delevoy vizit] from a country of friends. As the agency JANA reports, the chief of staff of the Libyan naval forces has visited the Soviet vessel.

Navy Chief Visits Cruiser

NC241338 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] The chief of staff of the Libyan naval forces visited the Soviet cruiser (Druzhba) at noon today. The cruiser and other ships of the Soviet fleet are now visiting Libyan Arab ports. The commander of the Soviet ships, which operate in the Mediterranean, received the Libyan chief of staff aboard the cruiser. Soviet officers participated in the reception.

In a speech, the commander of the Soviet ships welcomed the chief of staff and other officers of the Libyan Arab naval forces accompanying him. The commander gave them a detailed explanation of the cruiser (Druzhba), its equipment, and combat abilities.

The brother chief of staff visited some areas of the cruiser, inspected its equipment, and saw how it worked. He praised Libyan Arab-Soviet cooperation in all fields.

The commander of the Soviet naval ships presented a symbolic gift to the brother chief of staff: an emblem of the Soviet Navy. The chief of staff of the Libyan Arab naval forces then wrote in the cruiser's register praising Libyan Arab-Soviet cooperation.

Soviet Commander Received

LD241803 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 1715 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Excerpt] The chief of staff of the Libyan Arab Naval Forces this morning in his office received the commander of the Soviet Naval Group in the Mediterranean. The chief of staff welcomed the visit of the naval units and the visit of the commander of the group, and praised the Libyan-Arab-Soviet cooperation. The chief of naval staff showed the Soviet commander the departments of the Libyan Navy and the progress it has achieved as a result of the efforts of the Great Al-Fatih Revolution, whose policies are aimed at establishing the undefeatable armed people.

Arab Summit To Convene

LD241337 Moscow TASS in English 1315 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] Tunis April 24 TASS -- The extraordinary conference of the heads of state and government of Arab countries will be held next week in Morocco.

This has been announced here by a special representative of Morocco's King Hassan after a meeting with the secretary general of the Arab League Chedli Klibi. The conference is being convened on the request of Libya that became the victim of barbarous aggression by the United States.

Threats Met With 'Indignation'

LD241936 Moscow TASS in English 1911 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] Tripoli April 24 April -- TASS correspondents Vladimir Bogachev and Georgiy Shelenkov report:

The latest statement by U.S. President Reagan, who threatened new strikes against the Libyan Jamahiriyah and to "punish" Syria and Iran under far-fetched pretexts, have been met in Libya with indignation.

There is an impression that the Reagan administration grew angry with the whole world, the TASS correspondents were told by Muhammad al-Fayturi, secretary of the GPC [General People's Committee] of the Libyan Jamahiriyah for information and culture. Washington launched a few days ago a bandit attack against Libya, but today the U.S. President arrogantly claims the right also to "punish" Syria and Iran. Nobody knows the limit to his insane adventurism. You could see with your own eyes Libyan children mutilated by the American bombs, Muhammad al-Fayturi continued. Can one hope for common sense of the current United States Administration?

But the United States Administration will never frighten the Libyan people. The Armed Forces of the Jamahiriyah have already in action proved their skills in handling modern weapons. We will further uphold the cause of peace and freedom, wage the struggle for the sacred right of the peoples to independence and sovereignty, the Libyan representative stressed.

Reports are reaching the Libyan capital about the movements of U.S. ships off the shores of Sicily, the dispatch of the U.S. aircraft carrier "Enterprise" from the Indian Ocean to the Mediterranean. Yet normal life and work are continuing in the city. The residential neighbourhoods damaged by the recent American air raids have been put in order. Friday is the day off here, and many inhabitants of the capital are preparing to go to the countryside for a day of rest.

U.S. 'Searching' for Excuse

LD250927 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2200 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Correspondent Leonid Rassadin report from Tripoli]

[Text] The capital of Libya decisively condemns the campaign of anti-Libyan hysteria that was recently unleashed in the United States and in some West European countries. The new threats by President Reagan to once again use naked force have also, after all, not gone unnoticed by this sovereign Arab state. This time the President of the United States went even further, having threatened other independent countries of the Near East. Again and again, without any kind of proof, Washington resorts to blatant inventions, asserting without substantiation that Libya is allegedly involved as a center of terror in Western Europe.

I will remind you that Libya itself has repeatedly condemned terrorist actions. Why are we Libyans suffering so, a young, female teacher from the Libyan town of Banghazi, Amal Dagvan, asked in a conversation with us.

It is not us, but the U.S. Administration that issues the order to kill peaceful people, to bomb hospitals and schools. The cruel, piratical raids by U.S. aircraft on our towns -- that is the most graphic proof of the U.S. policy of state terrorism, Amal Dagvan stressed.

In local political circles, the U.S. Administration is considered to be searching for an excuse to carry out another aggression against Libya. Having failed to attain their main targets with their barbaric air attacks, and to be precise, the liquidation of the present Libyan regime, which is following an independent anti-imperialist course, Washington is obviously planning new bandit attacks on Libya.

Libya Thwarted U.S. Hopes

PM241312 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 24 Apr 86 Morning Edition p 4

[Own correspondent V. Neznamov dispatch: "The People on the Alert"]

[Text] Tripoli -- The capital of the Libyan Jamahiriyah has changed beyond recognition. Semi-deserted during the first half of the day, Tripoli's squares, streets, and parks fill with a mass of people in the evening. Spontaneous rallies developed into demonstrators' columns making their way toward the waterfront and the Funduq al-Kabir Hotel, where some 300 representatives of the mass media from all over the world are staying.

"Down with Reagan!"; "Victory will be ours!", the demonstrators chant. These slogans express the feelings and moods that are now dominant throughout this small Arab country: Determination to continue the just cause of the struggle against U.S. imperialism and profound gratitude to the states, governments, political parties, mass organizations, and all people of goodwill who raised their voice of protest against the U.S. aggression. The marches along Tripoli's streets are evidence that the process of returning to a peaceful life and routine matters and concerns is gathering momentum.

It is accompanied by a serious examination of the consequences of the U.S. terrorist action and the lessons to be learned from it. The most important lesson is obvious. The aggression showed that the country's political system, based on the principle of people's power, has, on the whole, withstood harsh trials and has upset Washington's expectations of an internal explosion. The intensive work done by people's assemblies and their committees, which are the supreme organs of local power, together with the Jamahariyah's primary cells and revolultionary committees, prevented the spread of panic and swiftly armed and mobilized the country's adult population in case of open intervention, counterrevolutionary invasion, or actions by the domestic opposition.

Now, while mass people's demonstrations are taking place everywhere, these organizations' activists remain on the alert. The danger has receded, but has not disappeared. Consequently, people's resistance detachments under the leadership of "revolutionary committees" continue to patrol and guard state installations.

During my stay in Tripoli and Banghazi I had numerous occasions to hear warm words of gratitude spoken in connection with the Soviet Union -- gratitude for the weapons that helped the Libyan air defense installations prevent the aggressors from achieving their objectives, for the broad and comprehensive political and moral support at all levels, and for the bold initiative to eliminate the causes of tension in the Mediterranean.

. . . "Jamahariyah, Jamahariyah -- people's power." These are the lyrics of a song performed by Libyan Tuareg folk group from the Ghadamis Oasis in the Sahara.

The song became unusually popular during the days of the raids. Its title reflects not only a well-known political slogan but also the reality of the present. The Libyan people forced the aggressor to take this reality into account, and he -- having failed to fulfill his plans to destroy the country's progressive regime -- has now switched to other forms and methods of conducting subversive activity against this sovereign state.

Situation in Tripoli Reported

PM240912 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Apr 86 First Edition p 5

[Report by special correspondents T. Kolesnichenko and S. Filatov: "The People's Cohesion"]

[Text] Tripoli, 23 Apr -- Every day more and more delegations are coming from various countries and international organizations to express their solidarity with the libyan people, who have been subjected to criminal aggression by the United States.

Leader of the Libyan revolution M. al-Qadhdhafi met with a Nonaligned Movement delegation headed by the Indian foreign minister. It also included the Cuban and Yugoslav foreign ministers, the Ghanaian permanent representative at the United Nations, and representatives from the Congo, Senegal, and other countries. During the conversation with M. al-Qadhdhafi, it was emphasized that U.S. aggression against the Libyan Jamahiriyah is direct aggression against the security and independence of all the states and peoples of the Nonaligned Movement.

Here you can see for yourself that the Washington administration's plans to undermine the Libyan revolutionary regime from within have failed. Throughout the country there are mass demonstrations whose participants are expressing a desire to strengthen the Libyan people's unity even more in the face of imperialist aggression.

Late in the evening of 22 April thousands of people went to Green Square -- the capital's central square, which is a symbol of the Libyan revolution. Colored lights, portraits of M. al-Qadhdhafi, flags, and marching music turned the demonstration into a festival of a people upholding their independence and the country's revolutionary path. "Jamahiriyah, Jamahiriyah -- people's power," the words of the very popular song filled the square.

Even some of the Western journalists, who came to Tripoli to file reports about manifestations of "dissatisfaction" caused by the U.S. aggression, said that what they had seen with their own eyes made them realize that the people became even more cohesive during the danger period and firmly backed the revolutionary leadership.

Yesterday there were some more explosions on the outskirts of Tripoli. Unexploded bombs are still being taken out into the desert and detonated. It must be said that these bombs, taken out of deep craters, are not Pentagon "duds," but special delayed-action weapons. Military experts conclude that Washington used the most modern weapons against Libya, including laser-guided bombs.

But no Pentagon weapon was capable of smashing the resistance of the libyan air defense forces. This is seen today as a graphic lesson for the aggressor. For example, when the second U.S. bomber raid was carried out, Libyan air defense forces managed to produce such effective protective fire that most of the U.S. aircraft coming in from bases in Britain were forced to withdraw, dropping their bombs aimlessly into the sea. The dozens of aircraft that had taken off from aircraft carriers off the Libyan coast were unable to help the aggressors.

In conversations with us, many Libyans have expressed sincere gratitude to the Soviet Union for the great assistance it has given and is continuing to give to the people of the Libyan Jamahiriyah.

Reporters Tour Banghazi

PM241347 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Apr 86 First Edition p 5

[Special correspondents T. Kolesnichenko, S. Filatov report: "Banghazi Raked With Fire"]

[Text] Banghazi, Tripoli, 22 Apr -- Banghazi, the second biggest city in the Libyan Jamahiriyah, is situated on the shores of the Mediterranean. It is more than 1,500 km from Tripoli. Between them is the Gulf of Sidra, at the entrance to which an armada of the U.S. 6th Fleet is once again concentrated. It was from the decks of its aircraft carriers that the planes rose to inflict the vile, barbaric strikes on Banghazi on the night of 14-15 April.

Yesterday we visited that city. Evidence of the U.S. military's crimes are visible even at the local airport. To the side of the runway lays the decaying fragments of a passenger airliner -- the fuselage burnt out and broken in two, the tail plane cut off by the explosion. Another civil aircraft stands at the reserve berth: In the side and in the cockpit is a large hole made by a fragment of an exploding bomb. All around, the concrete surface is peppered with little craters -- the traces left by explosions of antipersonnel and cluster bombs.

From the airfield we went to the city's Diyallah Hospital. Bombs fell near it, in the same street, on the night of the raid. They brought 28 seriously wounded and more than 80 slightly wounded people here immediately. More than 20 people died.

A young man with his chest bandaged lies in a hospital bed. His name is Nasir 'Ali. In the night, hearing the thundering, he ran from his home and was wounded by several pieces of shrapnel.

The doctors themselves also suffered. One of the missiles launched from a U.S. plane hit the territory of the city medical center. It fell on the area where medical personnel live. In hut number 76, occupied by the family of Polish doctors Andrzej and Wanda Studpacki, who were working in Libya, the roof was pierced. Wanda says she and her husband escaped by jumping through the window into the street. "It was terrible," she exclaims.

In the city center, in the Bin Yunis region, bombs fell on a maternity home and the neighboring primary school. Damaged walls, windows torn out by the blast wave, disintegrating desks in the second-story classroom -- that is the result of the raid.

We witnessed a protest meeting taking place in the schoolyard against the U.S. militarists' crimes. Those taking part were all children, who are now learning not only from textbooks what imperialism is, having learned another lesson in their school -- the lesson of childhood under fire. When they chanted in harmony: "No, no to the United States!" and "Shame on the killers of children!" you could see from their faces that the children were not repeating slogans learned by heart, they were experiencing the meaning of the words.

A terrible picture is presented by a small house, or rather all that is left of a small house which stood some 500 meters from the school only a few days ago. Hasi Muhammad and his daughter no longer live there, they were killed by the bombs, and the mother, Ghaliyah, was taken to the hospital in serious condition.

The neighbors, who saw the tragedy taking place, showed us where the bodies of the father and the little girl were found among the wreckage.

Yes, there can be only one conclusion: The barbaric bomb strike was inflicted on purely peaceful civilian targets. Showing us the damage, the Libyans told the journalists taking part in the tour: "There are no military sites here, if you find any, tell us." That is indeed so. The statements by the leaders of the Washington administration to the effect that the aircraft bombed only military targets are lies. In Banghazi you can see for yourself that the peaceful population were the aggressors' victims.

In conversations with the inhabitants of Banghazi another aspect of the massive anti-Libyan campaign unleashed by the United States emerged. A university professor told us that the country is being subjected to an active U.S. propaganda attack. In broadcasts to Libya the Voice of America constantly transmits disinformation, incites internal disorders, and threatens the Libyan people with reprisals.

On the night of the air raid, the professor said, literally half an hour after the bombing the Voice of America put out a broadcast aimed at causing panic in the country. But the people did not give in to this provocation. On the contrary, the very next morning demonstrations began in Banghazi condemning the aggressor and supporting Libya's revolutionary leadership. Thus, Washington is trying by military and propaganda means to bring the Libyan Jamahiriyah to its knees. But it could not and will not succeed. In Banghazi and in the rest of the country, there is a strengthening resolve to defend sovereignty and uphold independence, whatever provocative and aggressive acts U.S. imperialism may resort to.

SOVIET OFFICIAL ADDRESSES MIDEAST ISSUES

LD242001 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1600 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow, 24 Apr (KUNA) -- A prominent Soviet official, who specializes in Middle East affairs, said the main reason for the Soviet Foreign Ministry's dispatch of a delegation led by Vladimir Polyakov, head of the Middle East Department, early this month to Damascus, Amman, and Cairo was the fact that these three capitals occupy primarily "key positions" in the Middle East. This was said by Robert Turdyev, head of the settlement section in the Soviet Foreign Ministry, at a press conference today with Arab journalists alone on Arab developments and the results of the Soviet delegation's visit to the three Arab capitals.

Answering a question from a KUNA correspondent, Turdyev said "I do not mean that these three capitals hold the key to the settlement of the Middle East crisis; rather, that they have key positions." He confirmed that the Middle East problem cannot be solved without the participation of these three capitals and explained "this does not mean the nonexistence of other concerned parties, including Arab ones." The Soviet official confirmed his country's [words indistinct] "the keys to the solution of the Middle East crisis are in the hands of the Arabs themselves," adding "therefore, there is no need to discuss the Middle East problem outside the framework of the region itself."

Discussing what prevented the holding of direct talks with PLO officials, Turdyev explained that many talks have been held between Palestinian and Soviet officials, the latest of which were those held by Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, with Soviet officials in Moscow. Turdyev confirmed that contact between Moscow and the PLO [words indistinct] "continues." The Soviet official said, "We do not believe we have annoyed the PLO by visiting certain Arab countries."

In this context, he pointed out that the Soviet delegation had meetings with Palestinian personalities during its tour of the three Arab capitals, such as Khalid al-Fahum, former chairman of the Palestine National Council; Nayif Hawatimah, leader of the Democratric Front for the Liberation of Palestine; and George Habash, leader of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine. Turdeyv denied the existence of any negative attitude toward Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO, among the Soviet leadership -- "not in the past, and not in the future." He denied that the Soviet delegation had discussed the Iraq-Iran war during this tour.

Concerning the U.S. attack on Libya, Turdyev said "we used to and we continue to support Libya in all its stands, especially in its anti-[words indistinct]. He commented on the Arab question about where the Soviet Union was at the time of the U.S. aggression against Libya by saying "where were the Arabs" at the time of these events? As to the military details of the aggression, Turdyev said "I am not a military official and therefore, not able to discuss these details," confirming Soviet "military and moral support" for Libya.

Concerning the Iraq-Iran war, Turdyev confirmed that the Soviet Union continues to exert all its efforts to bring a halt to this bloody war, which has entered its 6th year. He added, "We strive to find a speedy political settlement to the Iraq-Iran war." Turdyev pointed out that soviet officials always confirm, during their meetings with Iranian officials, the need to settled the disputed issues peacefully and through negotiation. In this context, he praised Iraq for its response to all the peaceful initiatives -- whether those by the United Nations, the nonaligned, or other Arab and international organizations -- aimed at ending this hemorrhage.

On Israel's possession of nuclear weapons, Turdyev explained, citing UN official reports, that "Israel now possess 20-25 nuclear bombs." The Soviet official confirmed that Israel could, in the future, militarily produce six to seven nuclear bombs and warned of the danger this weapon constitutes for the region's security. He concluded by saying that the Soviet Union will not supply any Arab side, whether an ally or others, with nuclear weapons because Moscow still adheres in form and content to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.

TOLKUNOV TOURS TUNISIA, DISCUSSES VISIT WITH PRESS

LD222327 Moscow TASS in English 1923 GMT 22 Apr 86

[Text] Tunis April 22 TASS -- The delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet led by Lev Tolkunov, chairman of the Soviet of the Union, now staying in Tunisia at the invitation of the Chamber of Deputies, today visited the city of Bizerte -- stronghold of the national liberation struggle of the Tunisian people for freedom and independence. On behalf of the USSR Supreme Soviet the delegation laid a wreath at the foot of the memorial erected in commemoration of the patriots of the popular movement, who gave their lives for the freedom of their homeland. The delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet also visited a dam on the River Joumin built with Soviet economic and technological assistance. The dam is one of the largest irrigation facilities in northern Tunisia designed to irrigate the country's barren areas and supply the cities of Tunis, Banzart and Matter with drinking water. The delegation also visited a new ship-repair plant in Port Banzart.

Lev Tolkunov, chairman of the Soviet of the Union of the USSR Supreme Soviet, today addressed a press conference for local journalists. He told them about the Soviet delegation's visit to Tunisia, the friendly meetings and talks with representatives of the Tunisian Parliament, statesmen and politicians and also about the Soviet Union's peaceful foreign policy.

ANGOLA LEADER TO VISIT 'FIRST HALF' MAY

LD242148 Moscow TASS in English 2039 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 25 TASS -- Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Workers' party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, will pay an official visit to the Soviet Union at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet and the Council of Ministers of the USSR in the first half of May of 1986.

DOS SANTOS RECEIVES YAGODIN, DELEGATION

PM241022 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Apr 86 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Soviet Delegation Received"]

[Text] Luanda, 16 Apr -- J.E. dos Santos, chairman of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola [MPLA] Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, received a visiting Soviet delegation headed by G.A. Yagodin, member of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR minister of higher and secondary specialized education.

During the conversation J.E. dos Santos expressed satisfaction with the development of Soviet-Angolan cooperation in the sphere of training Angolan national cadres in the USSR and in Angola itself. He emphasized that the Soviet Union's help in the cause of training skilled specialists is highly important for Angola and helps in carrying out tasks set by the Second MPLA-Labor Party Congress.

BURUNDI FOREIGN MINISTRY CONDEMNS U.S. ATTACK ON LIBYA

LD190115 Moscow TASS in English 0916 GMT 18 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 18 TASS -- The Embassy of the Republic of Burundi in Moscow has released a statement by the Burundian Foreign Ministry over U.S. aggression against Libya.

It said the government and people of Burundi had been angered by the U.S. action which had violated international law and posed a threat to peace and security throughout the world.

Burundi, the statement said condemned the U.S. armed aggression which had caused civilian casualties as well as terrorism in all its manifestations.

The Burundian Government, the statement continued, remained convinced that all differences among states should be settled by peaceful means through competent international agencies.

HELICOPTER PILOTS COMPLETE AID WORK IN ETHIOPIA

LD210357 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 20 Apr 86

[Text] A group of Soviet helicopter pilots and mechanics, who have completed their work in rendering assistance to Ethiopian citizens stricken by drought, have been seen off in Ethiopia on their departure for home with great warmth and gratitude.

Presenting certificates and commemorative gifts to the Soviet specialists, Berhanu Deressa, deputy commissioner of the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission, highly appraised their work. The group of helicopter men, he said, had in 18 months conveyed almost 57,000 persons from the almost inaccessible areas near Gonder, Mekele, and (?Kambolji) to fertile provinces of the country. More than 8,000 metric tons of foodstuffs, medical supplies, and equipment were delivered to the drought-stricken.

CHEMICAL WEAPONS USED IN CHAD FIGHTING

LD210940 Moscow TASS in English 0925 GMT 21 Apr 86

[Text] Cotonou April 21 TASS -- TASS correspondent Aleksandr Prosvetov reporting:

Foreign mercenaries are fighting in Chad on the side of the Habre regime, which enjoys the backing of American and French imperialism, Facho Ballam, minister of foreign affairs in Chad's Transitional Government of National Unity, told the TASS correspondent.

This was clear from the evidence provided by the people who took part in the fighting and by the information coming from the zone controlled by the Ndjamena regime.

There are citizens of the United States, Western European countries and the racist Republic of South Africa among the mercenaries. Their base is situated at Dugina settlement 80 kilometers from Ndjamena, Facho Ballam went on to say.

French military personnel are directly involved in combat operations. Military developments have shown, the minister said, that the Habre regime exists only due to U.S. and French support. The United States is making plans for establishing its own military base in Chad from where it could destabilize the situation in African countries, Libya, for example, and suppress national-liberation movements.

During the recent fighting, the minister said, the enemy used chemical weapons against troops of the Transitional Government of National Unity (TGNU).

We are planning to circulate through TGNU offices abroad photo materials about the use of means of chemical warfare by the Ndjamena regime, acting with the complicity of its benefactors.

Facho Ballam denied Western press allegations concerning "Libyan military presence in Chad." Not a single Libyan, he emphasized, is taking part in combat operations on Chad territory. Libya is only rendering technical assistance to TGNU forces.

SALVADORAN LIBERATION FRONT DELEGATION VISITS MOSCOW

LD241645 Moscow TASS in English 1612 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 24 TASS -- "The Salvadoran people would long have achieved freedom and independence if the United States had not interfered in our internal affairs and had not rendered military and financial aid to the Duarte regime," Roberto Martinez said at a press conference today in Moscow. He heads a delegation of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front staying in the Soviet Union at the invitation of the Soviet Latin American Solidarity Committee.

"The National Liberation Front is operating all over the Salvadoran territory and is intensifying its strikes," Martinez said. "The scorched earth tactic developed by the Washington strategists is being implemented in Salvador. The government forces guided by U.S. military advisers bomb peaceful settlements, destroy crops, drive people out of their native places and herd them into 'strategic hamlets' that are veritable concentration camps. The butchers spare neither women, nor children, nor old people. They subject to brutal torture even pregnant women."

"The Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front declares for talks for the purpose of a peaceful settlement of the problem. But the U.S. Administration is doing everything to prevent a peaceful resolution of the conflict."

NICARAGUA LODGES PROTEST WITH U.S. OVER 'THREATS'

LD241022 Moscow TASS in English 0656 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] Managua April 24 TASS -- The Government of Nicaragua lodged a resolute protest with the United States over contemptible threats made against the Sandinista people's revolution by President Reagan in his speech to the reactionary organization, Heritage Foundation.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Nicaragua circulated a note here saying that the speech of the U.S. President was a manifestation of the policy of state terrorism pursued by his administration and an attempt at paving the way for wide-scale aggressive actions against Nicaragua.

ORTEGA ON MILITARY BUILDUP TO COUNTER U.S. 'CONTRA' AID

PM240816 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Apr 86 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "D. Ortega interview"]

[Text] New York, 19 Apr -- Nicaragua is ready to discuss and sign with the United States a mutual security treaty, which would help transform Central America into a "neutral zone," Nicaraguan president Daniel Ortega declared in an interview published by THE WALL STREET JOURNAL. Pointing out the possibility of reaching compromise solutions on a number of questions, he simultaneously emphasized that, if the United States continues to insist on expanding U.S. aid to the Nicaragua "contras," the republic's government will be forced to build up its Armed Forces in order to be in a position to ensure national independence.

D. Ortega announced that, without waiting for approval by Congress, U.S. "advisers" have already arrived at "contras" camps situated on Honduran territory along the border with Nicaragua. At the same time, he pointed out the increased threat of direct U.S. military interference in the Central American conflict.

PRAVDA PUBLISHES CPSU GREETINGS TO CUBAN CP

PM161425 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Apr 86 First Edition p 1

[Text] To the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] Central Committee

Dear comrades!

We cordially congratulate you on the 25th anniversary of the founding of the PCC, which continued under new historical conditions the glorious revolutionary traditions of Jose Marti, Julio Antonio Melia, and other fighters for the people's well-being. Emerging in the days when the imperialist aggression in the Bay of Pigs was being repulsed, and at the moment when the socialist nature of the Cuban revolution was being proclaimed, the party of Cuban Communists has become a real leader [vozhd] and guide [rukovoditel] for the people's masses.

Since the historic days of April 1960 time has convincingly proved the correctness of the political course followed by the PCC, which confidently leads the process of building the first socialist society in the Western Hemisphere. Cuba's indisputable achievements in the development of the economy and culture and in the solution of major social problems and the growth of the Republic's international prestige are inseparably linked with the activity of the Cuban people's political vanguard. The recent Third PCC Congress outlined new large-scale plans and set the tasks for governing the country's further movement along the path of socialism.

Our parties and states are linked by bonds of true brotherhood, based on the principles of socialist internationalism. Soviet-Cuban cooperation is strengthening and developing in all spheres of social life.

Under today's conditions of acute antagonism between the forces of progress and reaction, the Soviet Union and the Republic of Cuba, together with the other socialist countries and all peace-loving forces on the planet, advocate prevention of the threat of nuclear war and a change for the better in international relations. Our parties and states are unanimous in their desire to counter the imperialist policy of blackmail and aggression, of whipping up international tension, and of stifling the liberation struggle of the peoples.

We wish you, dear friends, new successes in socialist building, in the strengthening of the country's defense capability, and in our common struggle for the peace and prosperity of the peoples.

With fraternal greetings,

CPSU Central Committee